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MURRAY'S FOREIGN HANDBOOKS

20480 e. 159
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A HANDBOOK

FOR

TRAVELLERS IN FRANCE.

PART I.

NOTICE TO THIS EDITION.

THE Editor of the 'Handbook for Travellers in France' requests that travellers who may, in using this Work, detect any errors or omissions which they can correct *from personal knowledge*, will have the kindness to mark them down on the spot and communicate to him a notice of the same, favouring him at the same time with their names—addressed to the care of Mr. Murray, Albemarle Street. They may be reminded that by such communications they are not merely furnishing the means of improving the Handbook, but are contributing to the benefit, information, and comfort of future travellers in general.

*** No attention can be paid to letters from innkeepers in praise of their own houses.

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A

HANDBOOK FOR TRAVELLERS

IN

FRANCE.

PART I.

CONTAINING

ARTOIS, PICARDY, NORMANDY, BRITTANY, THE SEINE AND LOIRE, THE GARONNE, BORDEAUX, LIMOUSIN, GASCONY, THE PYRENEES, &c. &c.

FOURTEENTH EDITION.

With Maps and Plans of Towns.

BODLEIANA
OCT 1877

LONDON:
JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE STREET.
PARIS: GALIGNANI AND CO.; BOYVEAU.
1877.

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246. d. 75.

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PREFACE.

THE Handbook for France, in its origin, plan, and arrangements, does not differ from the other Handbooks for Travellers, inasmuch as it is based on actual travels through the country and on personal knowledge of the places described. For the convenience of travellers, it is now divided into two parts, either of which may be had separately. The division is made by an imaginary line running nearly N. and S. through Paris. Part I. contains the Western Half, Part II. the Eastern.

The Handbook was first published prior to the construction of Railways in France, and the changes produced by these gigantic enterprises have necessitated great alterations in every succeeding Edition. Exertions have been made to bring the information down to the latest date, and to correct and improve the work in every part. There can be no doubt that errors and imperfections still remain; the Editor, therefore, continues to invite Travellers to enable him to correct them from their own personal observation and experience.

The chapters into which the book is divided are arranged according to the ancient Provinces, as being less minute, more historical, and better understood by the English than the more intricate subdivisions of Departments; and it may be observed that the modern Departments are either identical with, or are subdivisions of, the old French Provinces.

This volume contains no description of the Capital, as a separate 'Handbook for Visitors to Paris' has been published

by Mr. MURRAY; and a Handbook of the Island of *Corsica* has been published separately, with a Map.

An effort has been made to give a correct and scientific description of the Churches of France, which present so many points of interest to the intelligent traveller; and pains have been taken to distinguish the styles peculiar to the different Provinces of France, and to fix, as far as possible, the dates of various parts of the buildings, in doing which much aid has been derived from the admirable works of M. Viollet-le-Duc.

In the Twelfth Edition the changes and incidents connected with the Franco-German war of 1870–71, with some account of the Battle-Fields from personal examination, were introduced; and for this Fourteenth Edition the work has been again subjected to a careful revision, particularly with a view to the correction of the characters of the hotels, always a task of difficulty, and towards which the information furnished by obliging correspondents has greatly contributed.

London, 1877.

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HANDBOOK

FOR

TRAVELLERS IN FRANCE.

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a. MONEY.

In France, accounts are kept in *francs* and *centimes* (or hundred parts), the coinage being arranged on the decimal system. Each franc contains 10 *décimes*, or 100 *centimes*.

FRENCH MONEY.

	£	*s.*	*d.*	
Silver Coins:—				
Piece of 1 franc = 100 centimes = 20 sous =	0	0	9½	English.
,, ... 20 centimes = 4 sous =	0	0	2	
,, ½ franc = 50 centimes = 10 sous =	0	0	4¾	
,, 2 francs = 200 centimes = 40 sous =	0	1	7	
,, 5 francs = 500 centimes = 100 sous =	0	4	0	

Gold Coins:—	£	*s.*	*d.*
Napoleon, or 20 franc piece . =	0	16	0
Half Napoleon, or 10 franc piece . =	0	8	0
Quarter Napoleon, or 5 franc piece =	0	4	0
100 franc piece . . . =	4	0	0
50 franc piece . . . =	2	0	0
40 franc piece . . . =	1	12	0

Copper (Bronze) Coins:—			
Décime, or 10 centime piece . =	0	0	1
5 centimes = 1 sou . . =	0	0	0½
2 centimes . . . . =	0	0	0⅕
1 centime . . . . =	0	0	0$\frac{1}{10}$

N.B. To find the value of any given number of centimes, remember that the *Tens* represent pennies, and the *Fives* halfpennies: thus 75*c.*=7½*d.*—25*c.*=2½*d.*—15*c.*=1½*d.* within a fraction, but near enough for all practical purposes.

To reduce French francs to English money, where minute exactness is not required, it will only be necessary to divide the amount of francs by 25, or to substitute 4 for 100, thus:—

Francs.		£
100	=	4
1,000	=	40
10,000	=	400
100,000	=	4,000
1,000,000	=	40,000

The Bank of France issues *notes* for 1000, 500, 200, 100, 50, 25, 20, and 5 francs, which are legal tender throughout the empire, though the last three are not often met with.

FOREIGN COINS REDUCED TO THEIR VALUE IN FRENCH CURRENCY AT THE PAR OF EXCHANGE.*

	fr.	*c.*
English sovereign (par of exchange) =	25	21
shilling . . . =	1	26
Dutch guilder . . . =	2	15
German mark . . . =	1	25
Prussian dollar . . . =	3	70
Bavarian florin = 20 pence English =	2	12
Austrian florin = 2 shillings English =	2	47

* The rate of exchange varies from day to day. It was as high as 26 francs during the war of 1870–71, and has been disturbed by the drainage of gold and large issues of paper. Occasionally it falls to 24·90. The average during the last four years has been 25·20.

FRENCH FRANCS AND CENTIMES REDUCED TO THEIR VALUE IN ENGLISH POUNDS, SHILLINGS, AND PENCE, AT 25 FRANCS FOR £1.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
5 cents.	0	0	0½ 8/10
10	0	0	0¾ 6/10
15	0	0	1¼ 7/10
20	0	0	1½ 6/10
25	0	0	2 4/10
30	0	0	2¼ 4/10
35	0	0	2¾ 3/10
40	0	0	3¼ 2/10
45	0	0	3½ 1/10
50	0	0	4¼
55	0	0	5– 8/10
60	0	0	5½ 8/10
65	0	0	6– 7/10
70	0	0	6½ 8/10
75	0	0	7– 8/10
80	0	0	7½ 4/10
85	0	0	8– 3/10
90	0	0	8½ 3/10
95	0	0	9– 1/10
1 franc	0	0	9½
2	0	1	7
3	0	2	4½
4	0	3	2
5	0	4	0
6	0	4	9½
7	0	5	7
8	0	6	4½
9	0	7	2

	£	*s.*	*d.*
10 francs	0	8	0
11	0	8	9½
12	0	9	7
13	0	10	4½
14	0	11	2
15	0	12	0
16	0	12	9½
17	0	13	7
18	0	14	4½
19	0	15	2
20	0	16	0
30	1	4	0
40	1	12	0
50	2	0	0
60	2	8	0
70	2	16	0
80	3	4	0
90	3	12	0
100	4	0	0
200	8	0	0
300	12	0	0
400	16	0	0
500	20	0	0
750	30	0	0
1,000	40	0	0
5,000	200	0	0
10,000	400	0	0
100,000	4000	0	0

ENGLISH MONEY REDUCED TO ITS VALUE IN FRENCH FRANCS AND CENTIMES.

	Fr.	Cts.
1 penny	0	10½
2	0	21
3	0	31½
4	0	42
5	0	52½
6	0	63
7	0	73½
8	0	84
9	0	94½
10	1	5
11	1	15
1 shilling	1	25
2	2	50
3	3	75
4	5	0
5	6	25
6	7	50
7	8	75
8	10	0
9	11	25
10	12	50
11	13	75

	Fr.	Cts.
12 shillings	15	0
13	16	25
14	17	50
15	18	75
16	20	0
17	21	25
18	22	50
19	23	75
1 £ sterl.	25	0
2	50	0
3	75	0
4	100	0
5	125	0
6	150	0
7	175	0
8	200	0
9	225	0
10	250	0
11	275	0
12	300	0
13	325	0
14	350	0

	Fr.	Cts.
15 £ sterl.	375	0
16	400	0
17	425	0
18	450	0
19	475	0
20	500	0
30	750	0
40	1000	0
50	1250	0
60	1500	0
70	1750	0
80	2000	0
90	2250	0
100	2500	0
200	5000	0
300	7500	0
400	10,000	0
500	12,000	0
1000	25,000	0
5000	125,000	0
10,000	250,000	0

b. WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

A uniform decimal system of coins, weights, and measures was introduced into France in 1790, and since 1840 has been universally adopted, to the exclusion of all others.

In this new system all the measures of length, superficies, and solidity, the unit of weight, and the unit of money, are connected, and are derived from one fundamental measure of length, called MÈTRE, equal to the ten-millionth part (0·0000001) of the distance from the pole to the equator of the terrestrial globe = 3·2808992 English feet.

From this are derived the *gramme* or unit of weight = 15·43235 English grains; *litre* or unit of measure = 1·761 imperial pints; *are* or unit of land measure = 100 square mètres = ·02471 acre, from which is derived the *hectare* of 100 ares = 2·471 acres.

On these units the other weights and measures are named by prefixes: the prefixes which express multiples are Greek; the prefixes which express fractions are Latin; thus:—

Myria-	—	mètre	= 10,000 Mètres.
Kilo-	—	mètre	= 1,000 ,,
Hecto-	—	mètre	= 100 ,,
Deca-	—	mètre	= 10 ,,
		Mètre	= Mètre.
Deci-	—	mètre	= one-tenth of a mètre.
Centi-	—	mètre	= one-hundredth ,,
Milli-	—	mètre	= one-thousandth ,,

The same prefixes are applied to grammes, litres, and ares; the following are commonly used:—

Mètre	= 3·281 English feet	= 3 feet 3·37 inches.
Kilomètre	= 0·621 English mile	= ½ mile 213 yds. 2 inches.
Kilogramme	= 2·205 lbs. avoird.	= 2 lbs. 3·26 ounces.
Litre	= 1·761 Imp. pints.	
Hectolitre	= 22·010 Imp. gal.	= 22 Imp. gal. very nearly.
Hectare	= 2·471 acres	= 2½ Imp. acres nearly.

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1 French pied (old)	=	1·06576 English feet.
1 French pied métrique	=	one-third of mètre.
1 French toise (old)	=	1·95 mètres.
1 French ligne (old)	=	2·256 millimètres.
1 French lieue de poste (old)	=	2 miles 743 yards.
1 French livre (old)	=	1·078 lbs. = 1 lb. 1¼ oz.
1 French livre (new)	=	one half of a kilog.
1 French arpent	=	0·5107 hectare.
1 French setier	=	1·56 hectolitres.

These comparisons between the English and the French weights and measures are taken from the researches of Prof. Miller (Ph. Trans., 1857); the French from the Almanach du Bureau des Longitudes, 1867.

TABLES OF FRENCH MEASURES AND WEIGHTS.

TABLE A.—FRENCH MÈTRES REDUCED TO ENGLISH FEET.

Mètres.	English Feet and Decimal Parts.	Mètres.	English Feet and Decimal Parts.	Mètres.	English Feet and Decimal Parts.
1	3·281	20	65·618	300	984·270
2	6·562	30	98·427	400	1312·360
3	9·843	40	131·236	500	1640·450
4	13·123	50	164·045	600	1968·539
5	16·404	60	196·854	700	2296·629
6	19·685	70	229·663	800	2624·719
7	22·966	80	262·472	900	2952·809
8	26·247	90	295·281	1000	3280·899
9	29·528	100	328·090		
10	32·809	200	656·180		

TABLE B.—FRENCH MÈTRES INTO ENGLISH YARDS.

1 mètre	equal to	1·09	yards.	20 mètres	equal to	21·86	yards.
2 ,,	,,	2·18	,,	30 ,,	,,	32·79	,,
3 ,,	,,	3·27	,,	40 ,,	,,	43·72	,,
4 ,,	,,	4·36	,,	50 ,,	,,	54·75	,,
5 ,,	,,	9·45	,,	60 ,,	,,	65·58	,,
6 ,,	,,	6·54	,,	70 ,,	,,	76·51	,,
7 ,,	,,	7·63	,,	80 ,,	,,	87·44	,,
8 ,,	,,	8·72	,,	90 ,,	,,	98·27	,,
9 ,,	,,	9·81	,,	100 ,,	,,	109·36	,,
10 ,,	,,	10·93	,,				

TABLE C.—ENGLISH YARDS INTO MÈTRES.

1 yard	equal to	0·914	mètres.	20 yards	equal to	18·288	mètres.
2 ,,	,,	1·829	,,	30 ,,	,,	27·432	,,
3 ,,	,,	2·742	,,	40 ,,	,,	36·576	,,
4 ,,	,,	3·658	,,	50 ,,	,,	45·720	,,
5 ,,	,,	4·572	,,	60 ,,	,,	54·884	,,
6 ,,	,,	5·488	,,	70 ,,	,,	64·000	,,
7 ,,	,,	6·400		80 ,,	,,	73·150	,,
8 ,,	,,	7·315	,,	90 ,,	,,	82·292	,,
9 ,,	,,	8·229	,,	100 ,,	,,	91·440	,,
10 ,,	,,	9·144	,,				

TABLE D.—FRENCH KILOMÈTRES REDUCED INTO ENGLISH MILES, ETC.

KILOM.		Eng. Miles.	Fur-longs.	Yds.	Ft.	In.	KILOM.		Eng. Miles.	Fur-longs.	Yds.	Ft.	In.
1	=	0	4	213	1	11	8	=	4	7	169	0	4
2	=	1	1	207	0	10	9	=	5	4	162	2	3
3	=	1	6	200	2	9	10	=	6	1	156	1	2
4	=	2	3	194	1	8	20	=	12	3	92	2	4
5	=	3	0	188	0	7	30	=	18	5	29	0	6
6	=	3	5	181	2	6	40	=	24	6	185	1	8
7	=	4	2	175	1	5	50	=	31	0	121	2	10

5 Kilomètres = 3 English miles nearly.
8 ,, = 5 ,, very nearly.

TABLE E.—FRENCH KILOGRAMMES INTO ENGLISH POUNDS (AVOIRDUPOIS).

Kil.	E. Pds.	Kil.	E. Pds.	Kil.	E. Pds.	Kil.	E. Pds.	Kil.	E. Pds.
1	2·206	14	30·880	27	59·554	40	88·298	300	761·714
2	4·411	15	33·086	28	61·760	41	90·434	400	882·286
3	6·617	16	35·291	29	63·996	42	92·640	500	1,102·857
4	8·823	17	37·497	30	66·171	43	94·846	1,000	2,205·714
5	11·028	18	39·703	31	68·377	44	97·051	2,000	4,411·429
6	13·234	19	41·908	32	70·583	45	99·257	3,000	6,617·143
7	15·440	20	44·114	33	72·788	46	101·463	4,000	8,822·857
8	17·646	21	46·320	34	74·994	47	103·668	5,000	11,028·471
9	19·851	22	48·526	35	77·200	48	105·874	10,000	22,057·143
10	22·057	23	50·731	36	79·405	49	108·080	20,000	44,114·286
11	24·263	24	52·937	37	81·611	50	110·286	30,000	66,171·429
12	26·468	25	55·143	38	83·817	100	220·571	40,000	88,228·572
13	28·674	26	57·348	39	86·023	200	441·143	50,000	110,285·715

1 Kilogr. = 2·20462 = 2 lbs. 3 oz. nearly.
50 Kilogr. = 1 cwt. very nearly.

TABLE F.—FRENCH HECTARES INTO ENGLISH ACRES.

Hect.	Acres.	Hect.	Acres.	Hect.	Acres.	Hect.	Acres.	Hect.	Acres.
1	2·471	8	19·769	15	37·067	40	98·846	200	494·229
2	4·942	9	22·240	16	39·538	50	123·557	300	741·343
3	7·413	10	24·711	17	42·009	60	148·268	400	988·457
4	9·884	11	27·182	18	44·480	70	172·980	500	1,235·571
5	12·356	12	29·654	19	46·952	80	197·691	1,000	2,471·143
6	14·827	13	32·125	20	49·423	90	222·403	2,000	4,942·286
7	17·298	14	34·596	30	74·134	100	247·114	5,000	12,355·751

c. PASSPORTS.

British subjects are admitted into France from England and allowed to travel through the country *without* passports, on merely declaring their nationality, and a police agent at the frontier, or the officers at the Préfecture de Police in Paris, will stamp a visiting card or paper bearing the Englishman's name, the display of which will obtain for him the privilege, formerly granted on producing a passport, of gratuitous admission to public monuments and exhibitions; though there is often difficulty in obtaining the delivery of registered letters without a passport, and Englishmen, especially *pedestrians*, travelling in remote parts of France, or entering by a distant frontier, may arouse the suspicions of the local police and run the risk *not only of detention, but even of rough treatment* if they cannot produce a passport. It is, therefore, most prudent for travellers, *before leaving England, to provide themselves with one from the Foreign Office.*

A Foreign-office passport can be procured (charge 2*s.*) at the Foreign-office between 11 and 4 by leaving or sending on the preceding day a *letter of application* from any banking firm in the United Kingdom, or a *certificate of identity* signed by any Mayor, Magistrate, Justice of the Peace, Minister of Religion, Physician, Surgeon, Solicitor, or Notary resident in the United Kingdom.

Bankers have printed forms of application, and will furnish one to their customers.

Certificates of identity may be in the following form :—

(Dated, &c.) The undersigned (mayor, &c., *as the case may be*), residing at (*town*, &c.), hereby certifies that A. B. (*Christian name and surname at length*), whose signature is written beneath, is a British subject and requires a passport, as he intends to travel on the Continent (*accompanied by his wife, children, sisters, and servant—Christian name and surname of servant at length—who is a British subject*).

(Signed) J. F. (*usual signature*).

Signature of the above-named A. B. (*usual signature*).

The letter or certificate must be enclosed in a cover addressed to the chief clerk, Foreign-office, London, with the word "Passport" on the cover. The applicant may on the next day either apply at the Passport-office in person, or send, with a written request that the passport be delivered to bearer.

If the applicant is in the country he can apply by letter enclosing a post-office order (postage stamps will not be received) for 2*s.* payable to the chief clerk, Foreign-office, at the post-office, Charing Cross, and the passport will be sent by post.

Passports may also be obtained from the Foreign-office agents for that purpose at Dover, Folkestone, Newhaven, Southampton, &c.

A passport will not be issued by the Foreign-office, or by the agent in any outport, on behalf of a person already abroad : such person, being a British-born subject, should apply for one to the nearest British Consulate.

The passport must be signed by the bearer in the proper place, and he should take care to write the name legibly, otherwise he may be kept waiting whilst the foreign functionaries through whose hands it will pass are deciphering his name.

Lee, 440, West Strand, or Messrs. Dorrell & Son, 15, Charing Cross, will obtain passports and procure the requisite visas at 1*s.* each on receiving the letter of application or certificate, and will also mount the passport in a book, to protect it from wear.

d. ROUTES ACROSS FRANCE — LONDON TO PARIS, STRASBURG, MARSEILLES, &c.

LONDON TO PARIS BY RAIL AND STEAMER.

a. By Folkestone (Rail—tidal express, 2 hours), Boulogne (2 hours, steam), Paris (rail—tidal express, 4½ ; ordinary, 7 hours). Total distance 260 m., time 9½ hrs. The time of departure by this route varies from day to day, according to the time of the tide. See time tables of the South-Eastern Rly. Co. Fares : 1st class, 2*l.* 16*s.* ; 2nd class, 2*l.* 2*s.* Return tickets (1 month), by Boulogne or Calais, 4*l.* 15*s.* and 3*l.* 15*s.*

By crossing from Folkestone to Boulogne, instead of from Dover to Calais, 35 miles of land journey are saved, and the railway being now carried at Boulogne up to the landing-quay of the steamers, ¼ hr. is saved on the journey to Paris.

N.B. Travellers will do well to book through from London to Paris in order to leave Boulogne by the tidal train, otherwise they may have to wait for the next ordinary train.

b. By Dover, Calais, Boulogne, Amiens, distance 288 m., time 10½ hrs. from London by the morning mail, Lond. Chat. & Dov. Rly. Co. (Victoria, Holborn Viaduct, and Ludgate Hill) 7.35 A.M., and evening mail (*first*-class only) at 8.15 P.M.; by the S.-E. Ry. Co. (Charing Cross and Cannon Street) 7.40 A.M. and 8.45 P.M.—1st class, 3*l.*; 2nd class, 2*l.* 5*s.*, tickets available for seven days. *Return* tickets available for one month, and by either Folkestone or Dover —1st class, 4*l.* 15*s.*; 2nd class, 3*l.* 15*s.* There is also a *cheap night* service by both these routes.

N.B. Fast steamboats cross the Channel between France and England; and though attempts are being made to provide larger boats, better-fitted for passengers, still they are often crowded to inconvenience, and in rough weather passengers are liable to be wetted by the rain or spray. Ladies, especially, should therefore take with them a small change of raiment in a hand bag. Both at the Charing Cross and Cannon Street Stations of the South-Eastern Railway, and at the Victoria, Holborn Viaduct, and Ludgate Hill Stations of the Chatham and Dover Railway, passengers' luggage may be booked through to Paris, where it is examined by the Custom-house authorities, without any detention or trouble at Calais or Boulogne. On arriving at London it will be examined by the Custom-house officers in like manner. Charges for overweight of luggage (above 66 lbs.) very high by this route.

When the wind blows from between N. and E. the best passage will be from Folkestone; when S. and W. from Dover.

c. By Newhaven, Dieppe, and Rouen, distance 240 m., time 12 to 16 hrs.

Steamers in connection with the London, Brighton, and South-Coast Rly. (Victoria and London Bridge) leave Newhaven daily, and this is an economical tidal route, but is tedious, and involves a sea passage (60 m.) varying from 5 to 8 hrs., and is therefore not to be chosen by those who suffer from sea-sickness. In spring and summer the voyage is generally performed in 6 hours. The land journey from Dieppe is agreeable, and Rouen will well repay a halt of a day. Passengers taking through tickets, which cost—1st class, 33*s.*; 2nd class, 24*s.*; 3rd class, 17*s.*—can remain 7 days on the road, which allows of their visiting Dieppe and Rouen comfortably. Luggage, which is charged considerably less than by the Calais and Boulogne routes, can be booked direct for Paris.

d. By Southampton, Havre, and Rouen, 15 hours.

Steamers in connection with the S.W. Rly. Co.'s (Waterloo and Kensington) trains from London leave the Pier, Southampton, every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday night (11.45 P.M.) Fares 33*s.* and 24*s.* Sea voyage, in large steamers, distance 80 m., time 8 hrs., of which 1½ hr. is under the Isle of Wight. Luggage can be booked at London for Paris in the same way as by the other routes.

e. By *Dunkirk* by screw steamer 3 times a week from Fenning's Wharf (and thence by Lille to Paris), fares 10*s.* and 7*s.*

f. By *Boulogne* from London Bridge direct in about 10 hours: fares, 12*s.* and 8*s.* 6*d.* In summer this is a very agreeable route, enabling the traveller to see the scenery of the Thames. It is also the most economical of all, no charge being made for an ordinary quantity of luggage, except from Boulogne to Paris. Luggage can only be registered from Paris to London; in which case it is examined on board the steamer on ascending the Thames, the traveller experiencing no delay on landing.

LONDON to BAYONNE, by Tours, Poitiers, Bordeaux, Dax, Pau, and the Pyrenees. Railway open all the way. Trains from Paris to Bordeaux 11½ hours; to Bayonne in 16; to the Spanish frontier at Irun in 17½, and to Pau in 17½ hours.

LONDON to BÂLE, in SWITZERLAND: from Paris to Strasburg, 10 hrs. 40 min., Bâle (16 hours), or by Troyes, Belfort and Muhlhouse, 12½ hours.

LONDON to GENEVA: PARIS to Geneva by Mâcon, in 14 hours.

LONDON to MARSEILLES in 32 hours—by railway Paris to Lyons, 11 hours (express); Lyons to Marseilles, 8½ hours; Marseilles to Nice, 6½ hours.

The arrangements of the Mediterranean steamers from Marseilles are so frequently changing that it will be advisable to refer to the bills issued from time to time by the different companies.

The people of the Packet-offices will do everything relative to passports, bills of health, &c., for a small fixed fee.

French Government contract steamers of the Messageries Maritimes leave Marseilles for Alexandria, Messina, Constantinople, Piræus, and the Levant, touching at Malta, several times every month. A Government contract steamer runs from Marseilles to Naples, touching on the way at Civita Vecchia, every Thursday. Those of the Italian Peirano-Danovaro Company leave Marseilles every Wednesday for Genoa, in correspondence with the mail steamers to Spezzia, Leghorn, Naples, the Italian ports in the Adriatic, Corfu, &c., and the coasts of Sicily, Calabria, and of the Adriatic, including Trieste and Venice. There are frequent steamers of private companies calling at Genoa, Leghorn, Civita Vecchia, Naples, &c.

e. RAILROADS.

France, though later than England in the construction of railways, made immense progress under the late imperial rule, and all the principal towns may now be reached by rail.

The *Livret Chaix* (price 2 fr.), for the whole continent, published monthly, or the *Indicateur des Chemins de Fer* (price 60 cents.) for the *French* railways only, weekly, contains the time-tables, fares, &c., of all the railways, as well as the public conveyances to the remotest localities from the several stations. The former is the "Bradshaw" of France, with very important improvements as to arrangement and clearness, corrected to the date of issue; either will be an indispensable companion to travellers. The principal French lines have also separate time-tables sold at all their own stations (price 30 cents.)

Railway passengers with luggage should be at the station at least a quarter of an hour before the time advertised for starting. Then join the single file (queue) of travellers before the window (guichet) where the tickets (billets) are delivered. Take the tickets of the *whole* party to the luggage guichet, and after the luggage is weighed the tickets will be returned stamped, together with a luggage receipt, on payment of the registration fee of 10 cents., and any additional sum for overweight. On delivery of the receipt at the journey's end the luggage is restored to the holder. This gives rise to some delay, but it ensures its safe delivery and conveyance. Another advantage is, that the traveller, if tired, need not wait for his luggage, but may leave it till he chooses to present his ticket for it. The best way to obviate this delay on commencing a journey will be to take as little as possible, and to place it in one or more carpet-bags, which will lie under *the seat* in the carriage. 30 kilos (= 66 lbs. English) of luggage are allowed to every passenger, whether 1st, 2nd, or 3rd class, free of charge, except the 10 centimes charged for registering. Luggage may always be left at the railway "en dépôt" on payment of a small fee.

Passengers are kept in the waiting-room (Salle d'Attente) until the train is ready to start, and no one is allowed access to the platform without a ticket. The *express* trains take only 1*st-class* passengers. On ordinary trains there are *separate* 1st, 2nd, and 3rd class carriages for *ladies*. Children over 3 and under 7 years of age travel half-price.

Provision is made for the personal comforts of railway travellers at the stations; and refreshment-rooms, very superior to our English ones, called *buffets*, are provided on all the lines at certain intervals, where halts are made of 10, 20, or 30 minutes, according to the distance travelled. An immense comfort on the French railways consists in the 1st and 2nd-class carriages being heated in cold weather by hot-water footstools. As a general rule the railway carriages are much cleaner and more comfortable than those in England, and the 2nd-class ones often as good as the 1st on many of the British lines. Sleeping-cars are now attached to the express trains to Strasburg, Cologne, &c.

Luggage Ticket.—On arriving at their journey's end, travellers instead of waiting for their luggage may give the ticket to the *commissionnaire* of the hotel to clear it. No examination generally takes place, except on arriving from England or upon entering France from a foreign state.

Circular Tour Tickets at reduced prices are now issued during the summer season by all the principal railway companies. The particulars will be found in the *Livret Chaix* or the *Indicateur*.

f. POSTING. — PRIVATE CARRIAGE.

Since the completion of the network of railways from Paris to the extremities of France, posting has nearly become a thing of the past, but a great deal of enjoyment is thereby lost, as this mode of travelling has many advantages of its own. The great national

roads are magnificently kept, even the departmental ones are superior to the English turnpike-road, and the distances and directions are legibly given at every convenient point.

Distances are calculated by kilomètres and myriamètres. *See* table, p. xvii.

The postmaster's authorised charge is, *for each horse*, 2 francs or 40 sous per myriamètre, or 20 centimes per kilom.

The *Postilion* is entitled by the tariff to demand only 1 franc per myriamètre or 10 centimes per kilom.; but it is customary to pay him 2 francs per myriam., or at the rate of a horse, unless he has misconducted himself, when he may be punished by limiting his pay to the tariff. He is bound to drive the myriamètre within 46 and 58 minutes. The English, who generally want to go faster, are too often in the habit of giving him 50 sous per myriam., or 5 per kilom., which is at the rate of nearly 4*d.* an English mile. In fact, French postboys are not satisfied with 4 sous, but well contented with 5.

The *cost of posting* with 3 persons in a calèche, may be calculated at 8 francs par myriamètre, or 80 centimes par kilomètre. For 2 persons, with 2 horses and postboy, the rate is about 6 francs, or nearly 9*d.* per English mile.

A party of three, with groom and a couple of their own horses, may travel very comfortably from one end of France to the other for about 40 frs. a day, doing about 35 kil. per day for 6 days in the week, and resting the seventh.

Hired Carriages—Voitures à volonté.

It is difficult to fix a fair scale of prices for the hire of a carriage and horses in different parts of France; the best guide will be to calculate it at two-thirds of the posting price for the same distance, exclusive of the carriage.

The carriage usually to be met with for hire is the cabriolet—a heavy, lumbering, and *jolting* vehicle: the charge for it is commonly 8 or 9 fr. a-day, exclusive of a pourboire of 2 or 3 fr. to the driver. It is clumsily built, and has neither the neatness nor the lightness of the gigs furnished at a country inn in England.

In out-of-the-way places often no other vehicle is to be found than a *patache*—a rustic cab, verging towards the covered cart, without its easy motion. He who rides in a patache must prepare to be jolted to pieces. Travellers driving themselves are reminded that the rule of the road in France is to keep to the *right*.

g. DILIGENCES.

The diligence is composed of a *Coupé*, like a chariot, in front, with 3 places, and an *Intérieur* behind, with 4 or 6 places, entered from behind. There is a *Banquette*, or outside seat, on the top. It affords a comfortable and roomy seat by the side of the conductor, with the advantages of fresh air and the best view of the country.

The pace of the diligence is slow, rarely exceeding 6 or 7 m. an

hour, and in bad weather, when roads are heavy, falling below that.

The coach and its contents are placed in charge of the *Conducteur*, a sort of guard, who takes care of the passengers, the luggage, the way-bill, and the mécanique, that is, the break, by which the wheel is locked. He is paid by the administration, and expects nothing from the passengers, unless he obliges them by some extra service. He is generally an intelligent person, often an old soldier, and the traveller may pick up information from him.

The *places* in the diligence are numbered, and are given out to passengers in the order in which they have booked themselves, the corner seats first; and it comports very much with the traveller's comfort to secure one of them. Before starting, the passengers' names are called over, and to each is assigned his proper place. The average rate of the *fares* may be calculated at 1½*d.* a mile English, except for the coupé, which is somewhat higher.

Diligences run on the roads of France on which the traffic is not already engrossed by railways, and correspond with provincial companies who "coach" the more distant and cross roads, so that there is no want of means of conveyance in any part of France between places of moderate consequence. In many cases, however, the "turn-out" from provincial towns is of an inferior description.

h. INNS, TABLES-D'HÔTE, ETC.

On the whole, the inns in the provincial towns of France are inferior to those of Germany and to those of Switzerland, in the want of general comfort, and above all of cleanliness. There is an exception to this, however, in the bed and table linen. Even the filthy cabaret, whose kitchen and salon are scarcely endurable to look at, commonly affords napkins and table-cloths clean, though coarse and rough, and beds with unsullied sheets and white draperies, together with well-stuffed mattresses and pillows, which put German cribs and feather-beds to shame. Some of the most *important essentials to personal comfort and decency*, on the other hand, are utterly disregarded, and evince a state of degradation not to be expected in a civilised country, a fact discreditable to French manners and habits. Where this is the case, the chambermaid should be ordered to cleanse them, or it may be advisable to order a night commode to be placed in the bedroom. The provision for personal ablution is defective. Fail not to take soap with you, a thing never to be found in foreign bedrooms.

French inns may be divided into two classes:—*a.* Those which make some pretensions to study English tastes and habits (and a few of them are comfortable), and, being frequented by Englishmen, are high in their charges. Such exist on the great roads and in the large towns. *b.* Those in remote situations, where the traveller who can conform to the customs of the country may live economically—6 francs a-day for board and lodging, and ½ a franc for the servants.

In one respect the innkeepers of France are more accommodating than those of Germany; they will furnish at almost any hour of the

day, at 10 minutes or ½ hour's notice, a very fair *dinner* of 8 or 10 dishes, at a cost not greatly exceeding that of the table-d'hôte. When ordering dinner in private, the traveller should specify the price at which he chooses to be served, fixing the sum at 5 or more francs. In remote places and small inns, never order dinner at a higher price than 4 francs: the people have only the same food to present, even if they charged 10 francs. A very fair dinner is usually furnished at 5 fr. to 6 fr. a-head. Travellers not dining at the table-d'hôte should come to an understanding beforehand for their meals at so much per head, otherwise they will be charged for each dish *à la carte*. The usual charge for a table-d'hôte dinner is 3 to 4 frs. (including wine in a wine country, but not in the north), and ought never to exceed that except in large towns and first-rate inns.

Bargaining for rooms before you enter an inn, though usual, sometimes leads the landlord to suppose that you are going to beat him down, and he may therefore name a higher price than he is willing to take, and thus you may cause the exorbitance which you intend to prevent. In French inns it is the universal custom to lock the door of your room when going out of the house, and to leave the key with the porter: it is expected, and is indeed necessary for safety, and to secure the landlord's legal liability to make good any losses by theft or otherwise.

Tables-d'hôte in France are not so well attended as in Germany or Switzerland. The majority of the company frequently consist of "commis-voyageurs," Anglicè, bagmen, who swarm in all the inns, and are consequently the most important personages.

In the principal hotels in Paris the charge for servants is 1 franc a-day, usually included in the bill, and that sum is ample in any part of France. It is usual, besides, to give a trifle to the porter who carries up and down the luggage on arriving and leaving.

The prices in large towns will be higher than those mentioned in the following table, and for some years, especially since the war with Germany, prices have been rising so much in France that it is difficult to estimate them with precision.

Average Charges at French Provincial Hotels.

Bedroom, 2 fr. 50 c. to 3 fr. and upwards.

Breakfast, tea or coffee, with bread and butter, 1 fr. 50 c.; with eggs, 2 fr.; with meat or *à la fourchette*, 3 fr. In many hotels there is a table-d'hôte breakfast, 10 to 12.

Dinner, table-d'hôte, 3 fr. to 5 fr.—In apartments, 5 fr. to 8 fr.

Bottle of vin ordinaire, 2 fr. to 3 fr.—N.B. Generally included in the charge for table-d'hôte dinners in wine-growing countries.

The better descriptions of wines are sold in demi-bouteilles. When only a part of the bottle is consumed, the waiter puts it aside for the owner until another time.

Coffee, 50 c. It is usual to take it at a café, where it is always better, and costs only 8, and with a glass of brandy 12 sous.

Bougies (wax lights), 1 fr. or 50 c. each.

Attendance, 1 fr. per diem.

i. CAFÉS.

We have scarcely any equivalent in England to the Cafés in France, and the number and splendour of some of these establishments, everywhere seemingly out of proportion to the population and to other shops, not only in Paris, but in every provincial town, may excite surprise. They are adapted to all classes of society, from the magnificent *salon*, resplendent with looking-glasses, and glittering with gilding, down to the low *estaminets*, resorted to by the working population, which abound in every town and village, however remote. The latter sort occupy the place of the beer-shops of England, furnish beer and brandy, as well as coffee, and, though not so injurious to health and morals as the gin-palaces of London, are more destructive of time.

It is only to the superior class of cafés that an English traveller is likely to resort, and they furnish some agreeable resources to a visitor in a strange place. Ladies as well as gentlemen frequent these establishments, and obtain in the afternoon a demi-tasse of coffee well prepared, and a petit verre of liqueur; and in the evening, in summer, excellent ices, sorbets, orgeats, limonade, and other cool drinks; and in winter a very tolerable potation called "punch," but differing from its English namesake. They are always supplied with the journals of Paris and the provinces, including, in the principal cities, 'Galignani's Messenger,' and have billiard-tables attached to them.

In the evening they are most frequented, and even in the most respectable (except the first-rate Parisian cafés) the company is very mixed: clerks, tradesmen, commis-voyageurs, soldiers—officers as well as privates—and men in blouses, crowded about a multitude of little marble tables.

A large cup of coffee (café au lait), with bread-and-butter and an egg for breakfast, costs about 20 sous. A demi-tasse, or small cup, in the afternoon, 8 sous; a petit verre de cognac, 4 to 6 sous. The waiter usually receives 2 sous.

j. A TRAVELLER'S GENERAL VIEW OF FRANCE.

It has been the custom of the English, who traverse France on their way to Italy or Switzerland, to complain of the monotonous features of the country, and to ridicule the epithet "*la Belle* France," which the French are wont to apply to it. By a "beautiful" country, a Frenchman generally understands one richly fertile and fully cultivated; and in this point of view the epithet is justly applied to France. It is also most fortunate in its climate. Many of its vineyards, the most valuable spots in the country, occupy tracts of poor, barren, and waste land, in appearance, which in our climate would be absolutely unprofitable. But in truth our countrymen are unjust in forming their opinion from the routes between Calais and Paris, and thence to Lyons, Strasburg, and Dijon, perhaps the least varied part of the kingdom, and at least no fair sample of its beauties. To this district, and to a large part of the province of

Champagne, the descriptions of "wearisome expanse of tillage, unvaried by hill or dale, and extent of corn-land or pasture, without enclosures, supremely tiresome," are almost exclusively applicable. Throughout nearly one half of France, especially in Lower Normandy, Brittany, a great part of the country S. of the Loire, the vicinity of the Pyrenees, Limousin, Auvergne, and Dauphiné, enclosures and hedge-rows are almost as common as in England, and the variety of surface in some of these districts is far greater. Our own island, indeed, presents as it were a miniature of other lands—a concentration, within a small area, of scenery varying from flat fen and rolling down to mountains and precipices. In France, the features of nature are broad and expanded, and you must often traverse 50 or 100 miles to encounter those pleasing changes which, in Britain, succeed one another almost every 10 miles.

Arthur Young (who travelled 1792-94) advised those "who know no more of France than just once passing through it to Italy, that, if they would see some of the finest parts of the kingdom, they should land at Havre, follow the Seine up to Paris, then take the great road to Moulins, and there quit it for Auvergne, and so to the Rhône at Valence or Viviers: such a variation from the common road, though it demand more time, would repay them by the sight of a much finer and more singular country than the road by Dijon."

The districts of France which chiefly recommend themselves by their beauty and variety of scenery are, in the north, Normandy, the banks of the Seine, the valleys about Vire, Mortain, and Avranches, the wild coast scenery of Brittany, and the course of the Rance, and of other streams near Quimper;—in the centre, the Loire below Tours, and parts of Limousin, Auvergne, the Cantal and Ardèche, the Rhône—by some preferred to the Rhine, on account of its more extended prospects;—in the east, the hills of the Jura, the mountains and valleys of Dauphiné, especially the vale of the Gresivaudan, the gorge of the Grande Chartreuse, and the savage magnificence of peaks and glaciers around Mont Pelvoux, a region which may be styled the Chamouni or Grindelwald of France; among the Vosges and Ardennes are many soberly romantic scenes which have as yet attracted but little notice from travellers;—in the south, Provence, with its sunny sky, is too arid to deserve general admiration, excepting that favoured region at the foot of the Alps, between Toulon and Nice. The Pyrenees, however, include the finest scenery in France, and, except in the absence of lakes, are scarcely inferior to the Alps of Switzerland and Savoy.

This brief enumeration of the chief points of interest is filled up in ampler details in the introductions to the different sections into which this Handbook is divided, with a view of enabling the traveller to lay down for himself the plan of a tour, embracing as many of these points as his time or inclination will permit.

"Bretagne, Maine, and Anjou, have the appearance of deserts. The fertile territories of Flanders, Artois, and Alsace are distinguished by their utility. Picardy is uninteresting. Champagne, in general, where I saw it, ugly, almost as much so as Poitou. Lorraine, Franche

Comté and Bourgogne are *sombre* in the wooded districts, and want cheerfulness in the open ones. Berri and La Manche may be ranked in the same class."—*Arthur Young.*

On the other hand, these districts, which are not interesting in point of scenery, have a compensating recommendation in their architectural remains and relics of antiquity. The heaths of Brittany are studded with extraordinary prehistoric or Celtic monuments, and abound in very beautiful churches. Out of the midst of the monotonous plain of La Beauce rises the magnificent fabric of Chartres cathedral; the colossal pile of Bourges overlooks the dull plain of the Berri, as the spire of Strasburg does the fertile valley of the Rhine. Reims, Troyes, Laon, &c., give an interest to the otherwise tiresome journey through Champagne; the sight of Amiens, Beauvais, and Abbeville makes one forget the length of the way through Picardy and Artois; and the Roman remains of Nîmes, Arles, St. Remy, and Orange, would alone compensate for a journey through Provence, even had it no other claims to interest.* France, however, is particularly rich in architectural remains, especially in Romanesque, resembling and yet differing from the Norman architecture of England, of which it possesses some of the noblest specimens existing, viz. the cathedrals above enumerated; to which must be added those of Metz, and 3 churches at Rouen.

These glorious monuments of architectural skill and lavish devotion are far more stupendous in their proportions than the cathedrals of England, but have this peculiarity, that scarcely one of them is finished: thus, Beauvais has no nave, Amiens is incomplete in its towers, Abbeville has no choir, Bourges no spire. It has been well said that a perfect cathedral might be made of the portal of Reims, the nave of Amiens, the choir of Beauvais, and the tower of Chartres.

The rose or wheel windows, the deeply recessed and grandly sculptured portals, are both more frequent and of larger dimensions than in English cathedrals, and contribute greatly to the beauty of those of France, where it is not uncommon to find three in one church. The quantity, variety, and richness of the *painted glass* which the ecclesiastical edifices still retain, in spite of Huguenot iconoclasts and revolutionary destructives, is quite marvellous: we have nothing to compare with it in England.

The churches are usually open all day, but the choir, its aisles and side chapels, are generally closed by an iron grating, and to obtain admittance one must apply to the *suisse*, or beadle, who struts about in cocked hat, sword, and laced livery, though a franc is sufficient to render him most deferential.

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* Fergusson's 'Illustrated Handbook of Architecture,' his 'History of Architecture,' Viollet-le-Duc's admirable 'Dictionnaire Raissonnée de l'Architecture Gothique,' 10 vols., De Caumont, various works, Parker's 'Introduction to Gothic Architecture,' and Mr. Petit's 'Architectural Studies in France,' should be perused and digested by every student of Gothic before he visits France. They are books full of instruction and suggestion, and the illustrations are valuable memorials to refer to on returning from one's travels. Fergusson's 'History of Architecture,' prepared especially as a companion to the Travellers' Handbooks of Europe, is the only one presenting a continuous view of the several French styles, arranged in the order of the several provinces.

The finest provincial cities are Lyons, Rouen, Bordeaux, Marseilles, Nancy, Nantes, and Metz, all more or less distinguished for commerce, manufactures, and fine edifices: and in spite of the anarchy of 1848-50, and the war of 1870-71, the whole country shows unequivocal signs of great and increasing prosperity. The minor provincial towns are fast changing their character, and since the improvements commenced under the government of the late Emperor Napoleon III., many of them have been completely remodeled, so that wide and straight streets, with handsome shops, have replaced narrow and crooked lanes with no pavement at the side, but a huge gutter in the centre, while large open squares occupy the space filled until recently by nests of tumbledown houses, and spacious boulevards now often encircle towns previously cramped in by rampart and ditch. There are, however, a number of the smaller towns still left, bearing certain features in common which will not fail to draw the traveller's observation: such are the formal walk near the entrance or on the outskirts, often a mere platform, planted with rows of stunted trees, and the resort of nursery-maids, washerwomen, and recruits undergoing drill, except on Sundays or fête-days, when the dusty and gritty platform is crowded with a gay throng, to whom the sight of bright ribbons, shawls, and new bonnets, compensates for the want of other prospect. A walk into the country and across the fields is seldom thought of by the French artisan or shopkeeper, nor indeed are there any field paths, green shady lanes, or pretty villas, or neat cottages with gardens, on the outskirts of the towns, to invite him to sally forth.

Every town of a certain size is surrounded with a wall or barrier for the purpose of levying the *octroi* or town duties on articles of domestic consumption, and which go to the municipal or corporation funds. All carts and carriages, public and private, are stopped at the gates in consequence, by officers, who search them, and the baggage contained in them, to ascertain that no eatables or liquors are concealed in order to evade this tax. The space outside the gates usually swarms with low cabarets, guinguettes, &c., where, in consequence of there being no octroi duties levied, the poor man may eat and drink at a cheaper rate than within the walls.

Arrived within the town, the traveller will pass one or more barracks (the number of which and of soldiers is striking everywhere, the barrack being often a sequestrated convent or church) before reaching the Grande Place or square. On one side of it, or in some other conspicuous situation, appears the préfecture or sous-préfecture, a large whitewashed building, graced probably with a portico in front, guarded by a sentinel, surmounted by a tricolor flag, and fenced round by a tall iron railing tipped with gilt spearheads.

There are many institutions and establishments in French towns deserving high commendation and imitation in England: such are the Abattoirs, or slaughterhouses, always in the outskirts; the public Cemeteries, always situated outside the walls; even the Public Walks to be found in every French town, though not suited altogether to English ideas of recreation, yet show an attention to the health and

enjoyment of the people which would be worthy of imitation on our side of the Channel.

In most of the larger towns there is a museum of natural history, and generally a gallery of antiquities and paintings, which, although for the most part of inferior merit, are commendable as institutions for public instruction and recreation.

Still more worthy of notice are the public libraries and reading-rooms arranged in convenient apartments, with salaried librarians, common in all French provincial towns. "I could not visit these libraries without wishing that similar institutions could be introduced into England, where the easy access to books in every part of the kingdom could not but prove at once agreeable and beneficial. The encouragement of such an object would be a wise application of the public money."—*Knight's Tour in Normandy.*

There are three authors whose works should be perused before entering France: Cæsar for its ancient history, with the lucid commentary and notes, the maps of his campaigns, and plans of its most remarkable sites, by the late Emperor Napoleon III.; Froissart, in his Chronicles, for its feudal history; and Arthur Young, for the picture of France before the Great Revolution, and its agriculture —many of his vivid local descriptions hold good to the present day.

Pedestrian tourists will find the large maps of the several departments of France, published by Logerot (Quai des Augustins, Paris) very useful; and the Government Survey maps, to the scale of $\frac{1}{80000}$, at 1 fr. the sheet, are now nearly complete for the whole of France.

k. LIST OF THE 89 DEPARTMENTS OF FRANCE, AND OF THE ANCIENT PROVINCES COMPOSING THEM.

Provinces and date of union with France.	*Départements.*	*Chefs-Lieux.*
ILE DE FRANCE, WITH LA BRIE, &c. Always held by the Crown.	Seine.	Paris.
	Seine-et-Oise.	Versailles.
	Seine-et-Marne.	Melun.
	Oise.	Beauvais.
	Aisne.	Laon.
PICARDIE. Louis XIV. 1667.	Somme.	Amiens.
ARTOIS AND BOULONNAIS. 1640.	Pas-de-Calais.	Arras.
FLANDRE AND HAINAULT FRANÇAIS. Louis XIV. 1667-1669.	Nord.	Lille.
NORMANDIE. Philippe-Auguste, 1204.	Seine-Inférieure.	Rouen.
	Eure.	Evreux.
	Calvados.	Caen.
	Orne.	Alençon.
	Manche.	Saint-Lô.
BRETAGNE. François I. 1532.	Ille-et-Vilaine.	Rennes.
	Côtes-du-Nord.	Saint-Brieux.
	Finisterre.	Quimper.
	Morbihan.	Vannes.
	Loire-Inférieure.	Nantes.
ORLÉANAIS. Louis XII. 1498.	Loiret.	Orléans.
	Loir-et-Cher.	Blois.
BEAUCE AND PAYS CHARTRAIN.	Eure-et-Loire.	Chartres.

Provinces and date of union with France.	*Départements.*	*Chefs-Lieux.*
MAINE. Louis XI. 1481.	Sarthe.	Le Mans.
	Mayenne.	Laval.
ANJOU. Louis XI. 1481.	Maine-et-Loire.	Angers.
TOURAINE. Henri III. 1584.	Indre-et-Loire.	Tours.
POITOU. Charles VI. 1416.	Vendée.	Bourbon-Vendée.
	Deux-Sèvres.	Niort.
	Vienne.	Poitiers.
BERRI. Philippe I. 1100.	Indre.	Châteauroux.
	Cher.	Bourges.
MARCHE. François I. 1531.	Creuse.	Gueret.
LIMOUSIN. Charles V. 1370.	Haute-Vienne.	Limoges.
	Corrèze.	Tulle.
ANGOUMOIS. Charles V. 1370.	Charente.	Angoulême.
SAINTONGE AND AUNIS. 1370.	Charente-Inférieure.	La Rochelle.
PERIGORD.	Dordogne.	Périgueux.
GUYENNE. Charles VII. 1451.	Gironde.	Bordeaux.
	Lot-et-Garonne.	Agen.
	Lot.	Cahors.
	Tarn-et-Garonne.	Montauban.
	Aveyron.	Rhodez.
ARMAGNAC (PART OF GASCOGNE).	Gers.	Auch.
BIGORRE (PART OF GASCOGNE).	Hautes-Pyrénées.	Tarbes.
GASCOGNE.	Landes.	Mont-de-Marsan.
BÉARN AND FRENCH NAVARRE. Louis XIII.	Basses-Pyrénées.	Pau.
COMTÉ DE FOIX. Louis XIII.	Ariége.	Foix.
ROUSSILLON. 1659.	Pyrénées-Orientales.	Perpignan.
LANGUEDOC. John, 1361.	Haute-Garonne.	Toulouse.
	Tarn.	Alby.
	Aude.	Carcassonne.
	Hérault.	Montpellier.
	Gard.	Nismes.
VIVARAIS.	Ardèche.	Privas.
GÉVAUDAN.	Lozère.	Mende.
VELAY.	Haute-Loire.	Le Puy.
COMTAT VENAISSIN, ORANGE, &c. Louis XIV. 1713.	Vaucluse.	Avignon.
PROVENCE. Louis XI. 1481.	Bouches-du-Rhône.	Marseille.
	Var.	Draguigann.
	Basses-Alpes.	Digne.
DAUPHINÉ. Philippe de Valois, 1343.	Isère.	Grenoble.
	Drôme.	Valence.
	Hautes-Alpes.	Gap.
LYONNAIS AND BEAUJOLAIS.	Rhône.	Lyon.
FOREZ.	Loire.	St. Étienne.
AUVERGNE. Philippe Auguste, 1210.	Puy-de-Dôme.	Clermont.
	Cantal.	Aurillac.
BOURBONNAIS. Louis XII. 1505.	Allier.	Moulins.
NIVERNAIS. Charles VII. 1457.	Nièvre.	Nevers.
BRESSE, BUGEY, &c.	Ain.	Bourg.
BOURGOGNE (DUCHÉ). Louis XI. 1477.	Saône-et-Loire.	Mâcon.
	Côte d'Or.	Dijon.
	Yonne.	Auxerre.

Provinces and date of union with France.	*Départements.*	*Chefs-Lieux.*
COMTÉ DE BOURGOGNE, OR FRANCHE-COMTÉ. Peace of Nimeguen, 1678.	Doubs.	Besançon.
	Jura.	Lons-le-Saulnier.
	Haute-Saône.	Vesoul.
CHAMPAGNE. Philippe le Bel, 1284.	Aube.	Troyes.
	Marne.	Châlons-sur-Marne.
	Haute-Marne.	Chaumont.
	Ardennes.	Mézières.
* LORRAINE. On the death of Stanislas Leczinsky, 1766.	Meurthe.	Nancy.
	Meuse.	Bar-le-Duc.
	Moselle.	Metz.
	Vosges.	Epinal.
* ALSACE. Louis XIV. 1648.	Bas-Rhin.	Strassburg.
	Haut-Rhin.	Colmar.
CORSICA. 1794.	Corse.	Ajaccio.
NICE. 1861.	Alpes Maritimes.	Nice.
SAVOY	Savoie.	Chambéry.
	Haute-Savoie.	Annecy.

l. THE ENGLISH ABROAD.

It may not be amiss here briefly to consider the causes which render the English unpopular in many countries of the Continent. In the first place, it arises from the number of ill-conditioned persons (mauvais sujets) who, not being in a condition to face the world at home, scatter themselves over foreign lands, and bring no little discredit upon their country. But, in addition to these, there are many respectable and wealthy persons, who, through inattention, unguardedness, wanton expenditure in some cases, niggardly parsimony in others, but, above all, from an unwillingness to accommodate themselves to the feelings of the people they are among, contribute not a little to bring their own nation into disrepute. The Englishman abroad too often forgets that he is the representative of his country, and that his countrymen will be judged by his own conduct; that by affability, moderation, and being easily pleased, he will conciliate; whereas by caprice, extravagant squandering, or illtimed niggardliness, he affects the reception of the next comer.

There are many points, however, in which our character is misunderstood by foreigners. The morose sullenness attributed by them to the Englishman is, in perhaps nine cases out of ten, nothing more than involuntary silence, arising from his ignorance of foreign languages, or at least from his want of sufficient fluency to make himself readily understood, which thus prevents his enjoying society. If an Englishman were fully aware how much it increases the pleasure and profit of travelling to have made some progress in foreign languages before he sets foot on the Continent, no one would think of quitting home until he had devoted at least some months to hard labour with grammars and dictionaries.

Englishmen and Protestants, admitted into Roman Catholic churches, at times are often inconsiderate in talking loud and

* Greater part ceded to Germany, May 10, 1871.

laughing while the service is going on: a moment's reflection should point out to them that they ought to respect the feelings of those around them who are engaged in their devotions. Above all, they should avoid as much as possible turning their backs upon the altar, especially whilst the minister of religion is officiating at it. In a church ladies and gentlemen should not walk arm in arm, as that is contrary to the practice of the country, and to respect and good breeding: they should particularly avoid talking together during service. It may be well to remark further that, to raise the hat on entering a railway carriage, a café, or any place where others are already assembled, is a mark of breeding which no Frenchman neglects, and which costs little.

Our countrymen have a reputation for pugnacity in France: let them therefore be especially cautious not to make use of their fists, however great the provocation, otherwise they will rue it. No French magistrate or judge will listen to any plea of provocation; fine and even imprisonment will be the offender's inevitable portion. The general conduct of the French towards strangers, especially that of the peasantry, is courteous and civil, and in no country is the foreigner more sure of redress in the event of suffering from fraud or injustice, provided only he preserves his temper and applies to the proper authorities. In the case of an exorbitant bill, a stranger may resort to a respectable lawyer in the place; and without being compelled to stay and appear, as in England, by merely leaving his deposition properly attested, the fraudulent innkeeper may be compelled to disgorge.

In most of the large towns places of worship for the performance of the *English Church Service* have been established, and at many there are resident English ministers. The Colonial and Continental Society of London has about 40 stations, at which English Episcopal Chaplains are supplied for a longer or shorter period. With few exceptions the stipends are very small, and English travellers availing themselves of the benefit afforded by these places of worship should remember that they are bound to contribute, according to their means, to the support of the establishments and their ministers. The *French Protestant State* churches, found in most of the large towns, are called "*Temples*;" those receiving no aid from the State are called "*Chapelles Évangéliques*." The Reformed Consistorial or Established Church under the control of the State comprises 103 Consistories, 483 Parishes, and 573 Pasteurs. The Union of Free Evangelical churches now numbers about 45 buildings.

m. SKELETON TOUR THROUGH FRANCE, TO EMBRACE THE PRINCIPAL OBJECTS OF CURIOSITY, AND TO OCCUPY FIVE OR SIX MONTHS.

Havre—By land up the N. bank of the Seine, halting to explore its beauties and curiosities.
Rouen (to Paris by railway).
Andelys—Château Gaillard.
Mantes—Poissy.
Descend the valley of the Seine by railway to Havre.
Honfleur—Trouville.
Caen.
Bayeux—St. Lô—Cherbourg.
Vire—Granville.
Avranches and Mont St. Michel.
Dol—St. Malo.
Dinan—St. Brieuc—Morlaix—Brest.
Quimper—Lorient—Auray.
Carnac and Vannes.
Ploërmel—Napoleonville—Redon.
Nantes—Clisson—Napoléon Vendée—Sables d'Olonne.
Ascent of the Loire to Angers.
Saumur.
Chinon.
Tours.
Loches—Chenonceaux.
Amboise.
Blois—Chambord.
Orleans.
Vierzon—Bourges—Moulins—Vichy.
Clermont—Puy de Dôme.
Mont Dore.
Cantal.
Le Puy.
St. Étienne.
Lyons.
Descent of Rhône—Valence.
Montelimart—Privas—Aubenas—Ardèche—Volcanoes of the Vivarais.
Viviers.
Orange.
Avignon—Pont du Gard.
Nîmes—Alais.
Lunel—Aiguesmortes.
Montpellier—Cette—Lodeve—Agde.
Narbonne—Perpignan—Eastern Pyrénées.
Carcasonne—Castelnaudary—Castres.
Toulouse.
Montauban—Agen—Auch.
Descent of the Garonne.
Bordeaux.
Bayonne—Biarritz.
Pau.
Tour of the W. Pyrénées.
St. Gaudens—Pamiers—Foix.
Tour of the Central Pyrenees—Tarbes—Bagnères—Eaux-Bonnes—Bagnères de Luchon.
Perpignan.
Narbonne.
Montpellier.
Arles—Aix.
Marseilles.
Toulon.
Fréjus—Cannes—Grasse.
Antibes—Nice—Mentone.
Digne.
Sisteron.
Gap.
Embrun—Val Queiras.
Briançon.
Pass of Lauteret—Mont Pelvoux.
Bourg d'Oysans.
Grenoble—Vale of Gresivaudan.
Grande Chartreuse.
Chambéry—Aix—Annecy.
Bourg—Mâcon.
Châlons-sur-Saône—Autun.
Dijon.
Besançon—Belfort—Mulhouse.
Colmar—The Vosges.
Strasburg.
Nancy—Metz—Sedan—Mézières—Givet—The Ardennes.
Châlons-sur-Marne and its Military Camp.
Reims.
Troyes.
Laon.
Soissons—St. Quentin—Cambray.
Valenciennes—Lille—Douai—Arras.
Amiens—Abbeville.
Boulogne.
Calais—Dunkirk.
Paris to Bordeaux, Orleans, Poitiers, Périgueux, Limoges, Figeac, Rodez, Alby, Aveyron.
Paris to Lyon by Fontainebleau, Montargis, Nevers, Roanne, St. Étienne.
Paris to Dieppe, Eu, St. Valery, &c.

n. A CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE OF THE KINGS OF FRANCE.

The succession from Meroveus, who reigned from 448, is traced in the following table:—

Childeric I. . . . . A.D. 458
Clovis I. 481

On the death of Clovis in 510 the kingdom was divided amongst his sons—Thierry I., king of Metz; Clodomir, king of Orleans; Childebert, king of Paris; Clothaire I., king of Soissons. In 558 Clothaire became sole king, but, dying in 560, his kingdom was again divided: Charibert reigned in Paris; Gontran (560), Thierry I. (596), at Orleans; Sigebert (560), Childebert II. (575), Theodebert II. (596), at Metz; Chilperic I. (560), Clothaire II. (584), at Soissons.

Clothaire II., sole king . . . . . A.D. 613
Dagobert I. 628

	A.D.		A.D.
Sigebert II., king of Austrasia,	638	Clovis II., king of Burgundy	638
Childeric II.	660	Clothaire III.	656
Dagobert II.	674	Thierry III.	670
Pepin	681	Clovis III.	691
Charles Martel	715	Childebert III.	695
Carloman and Pepin	741	Dagobert III.	711
Pepin the Little.	752	Childeric III. (deposed 752)	742
		Carloman	768

	A.D.		A.D.
Charlemagne	768	Philip VI., de Valois	1328
Louis le Débonnaire	814	John II., the Good	1350
Charles le Chauve	840	Charles V., le Sage	1364
Louis II., le Bégue	877	Charles VI., the Beloved	1380
Louis III.	879	Charles VII., the Victorious	1422
Carloman	879	Louis XI.	1461
Charles le Gros	884	Charles VIII.	1483
Eudes	887	Louis XII. of Orleans	1498
Charles III., the Simple	893	Francis I.	1515
Robert I.	922	Henry II.	1547
Rodolf of Burgundy	923	Francis II.	1559
Louis IV., the Stranger	936	Charles IX.	1560
Lothaire	954	Henry III.	1574
Louis V., le Fainéant	986	Henry IV., the Great	1589
Hugh Capet	987	Louis XIII., the Just	1610
Robert II., the Wise	996	Louis XIV., le Grand	1643
Henry I.	1031	Louis XV.	1715
Philip I., l'Amoureux	1060	Louis XVI.	1774
Louis VI., le Gros	1108	Revolutionary Tribunal	1793
Louis VII., le Jeune	1137	Directory	1795
Philip Augustus	1180	Napoleon, Consul	1799
Louis VIII., the Lion	1223	Napoleon I., Emperor	1804
Louis IX., the Saint	1226	Louis XVIII.	1814
Philip III., the Hardy	1270	Charles X.	1824
Philip IV., the Fair	1285	Louis Philippe	1830
Louis X., Hutin	1314	Republic	1848
John I.	1316	Napoleon III., Emperor	1852
Philip V.	1316	Republic	1870
Charles IV., le Bel	1322		

ABBREVIATIONS, &c., USED IN THE HANDBOOK.

(*rt.*) right, (*l.*) left,—when applied to the banks of a river, the rt. is that which lies on the right hand of a person looking down the stream, or whose back is turned towards the source.

kil. for kilomètre.
m. for English mile.
Dépt. for Département.
Inhab. for inhabitants.
b. built.
Cent. for century.
R., Rte., for Route.
p. for page.
pop. for population.
Stat. for Railway Station.
M. H., *Monument Historique*, attached to a building, shows it to be under the special protection or preservation of Government.
* to draw attention, as especially worthy of notice, or, as in the case of *Inns*, of praise.

The names of *Inns* precede the description of every place (generally in a parenthesis), because the first information needed by a traveller is where to lodge. The best Inns, as far as they can be determined, are placed first.

B. breakfast; D. dinner; R. room and bed.

Every Route has a number, corresponding with the figures attached to the Route on the General Map of France, which thus serves as an index to the Book, at the same time that it presents a *tolerably* exact view of the great lines of communication, railways, or roads of France, and of the course of public conveyances.

The length of the Routes and the distances at the head of each are measured in kilomètres and English miles from the place of departure. In the text, the distances on the railways are given in English miles from station to station only; on other roads from place to place.

HANDBOOK

FOR

TRAVELLERS IN FRANCE.

SECTION I.

ARTOIS—PICARDY—WESTERN FRENCH FLANDERS—ÎLE DE FRANCE—NORMANDY.

INTRODUCTORY INFORMATION.

Objects of Interest—Country of Normandy—Architectural Remains—Skeleton Tour.

ROUTES.

[The names of places are printed in *italics* only in those Routes where the *places* are described.]

ROUTE	PAGE
1 *Calais* to Paris, by Boulogne, Abbeville, and Amiens—RAIL.	3
1A Calais to Paris, by *St. Omer*, *Hazebrouck*, *Arras*, and Amiens—RAIL.	6
2 Calais to Brussels, by Hazebrouck, Armentières, *Lille*, Tournai—RAIL.	10
2A Lille to *Douai*—RAIL.	13
3 *Boulogne* to Paris, by *Abbeville* and *Amiens*—RAIL.	14
3A Creil to Paris, by *Pontoise*—RAIL.	33
3B Amiens to Tergnier, by *Ham*—RAIL.	34
4 Paris to *Eu* and *Tréport*, by Creil, *Beauvais*, Abancourt, and Gamache—RAIL.	35
5 Amiens to Rouen—RAIL.	39
5A Amiens to Paris, by Beauvais and Beaumont—RAIL.	40
6 *Dieppe* to Rouen—RAIL.	40
8 Paris to *Rouen*—RAIL.	45
9 Paris to *St.-Germain*—ROAD or RAIL.	59
10 Paris to Rouen, by *Magny*	61
11 The SEINE, A.—St.-Germain to Rouen	62
11A Paris to Dieppe, by Pontoise, *Gisors*, *Gournay*, *Forges*, and *Neufchatel*—RAIL.	66
12 The SEINE, B.—Rouen to Havre and Honfleur	67
13 Rouen to Havre.—*Lower Road*, by *St.-George-Boscherville*, *Jumièges*, *Caudebec*, and *Lillebonne*	70
14 Rouen to *Havre*—RAIL.	74
18 Havre to *Fécamp* (RAIL.); thence to Dieppe, *Eu*, and Abbeville	79
23 Havre to *Honfleur*, *Trouville*, and Lisieux	80
24 Havre to Caen, by Sea	82
25 Paris to *Caen*, by *Evreux*, and *Lisieux*—RAIL.	82
26 Caen to *Cherbourg*; *Bayeux*—RL.	91
27 Cherbourg to *St. Malo*, by *Coutances*, *Granville*, and *Avranches* [*Mont St. Michel*]	102
28 St. Malo to Rennes—RAIL.	112
29 Caen to Tours, by Coulibœuf (*Falaise*), Alençon, and Le Mans—RAIL.	113
31 Vire to Rennes, by *Mortain* and *Fougères*	116

PICARDY and Ile de France, through which lie the routes to Paris from Calais and Boulogne, present few picturesque attractions, but numerous historical associations interesting to Englishmen, and fine examples of Gothic architecture in the Cathedrals of Amiens, Beauvais, and Abbeville.

Normandy, on the other hand, is full of interest: it is remarkable for varied outline of swelling hills waving with corn; for beautiful valleys abounding in orchards, and in rich pasturages, on which large herds of cattle are reared, and traversed by winding rivers; for richness and careful cultivation; and above all, for remains of mediæval antiquity; venerable cities; noble cathedrals, abbeys, and churches, not confined merely to the larger towns, but scattered over the country, so that every village, in some parts, possesses a fine specimen of architecture. Normandy is among the most attractive portions of France. Parts of the upper country are certainly a flat, monotonous table-land; but in its joyous sunny slopes and winding dales, in its hedgerows, orchards, thatched cottages with gardens, in the general character of the landscape of La Basse Normandie, especially in its verdure, frequent village spires, and white chalk cliffs, an Englishman recognises with pleasure the features of his own country, which no other part of the Continent affords. He may also take pleasure in remembering that this was the cradle whence came the hardy bands of conquerors from whose possession of England that country dates her early prosperity and greatness.

To those fond of mediæval architecture,* especially to the architect and antiquary, Normandy will afford a rich field for observation. Rouen, a city possessing much of the mediæval character in its edifices, and containing not only a magnificent cathedral, but, if possible, a still finer church, that of St. Ouen, is certainly one of the most interesting cities in France, and will alone furnish occupation for many days. In its vicinity are a great number of curious village churches. The ruined abbeys, Boscherville, Jumièges, &c., on the N. bank of the Seine, are remarkable examples of genuine Norman architecture; and the scenery of the river near whose banks they lie—the great water highway connecting Paris with its port of Havre—is very pleasing. Caen is also interesting, though in a less degree than Rouen. The cathedrals of Bayeux (famed for its tapestry), of Lisieux, and of Coutances also are noble edifices.

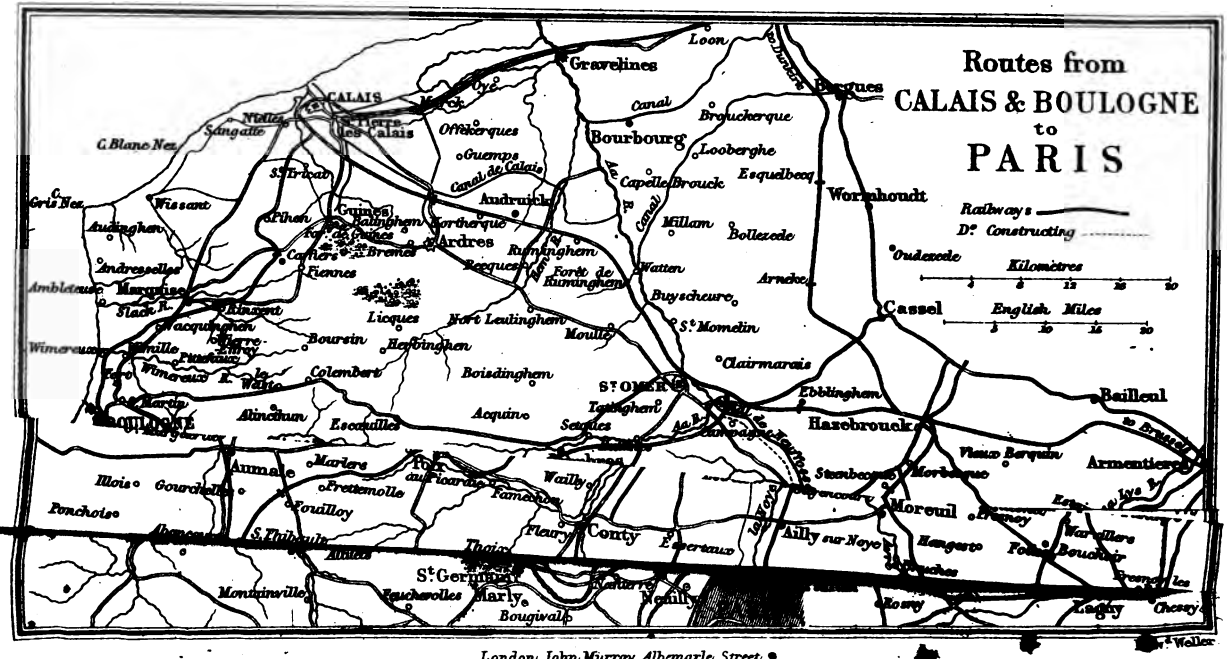
Normandy abounds in old *castles;* of which the most interesting, both in an historical and picturesque point of view, are Château Gaillard, the favourite stronghold of Richard Cœur de Lion; Falaise, the birthplace of William the Conqueror; and several others, the cradles of our English nobility, whence many derive their titles; and above all, Mont St. Michel, which possesses a triple interest as an historical fortress, a remarkable ecclesiastical and monastic edifice, and a most grand and striking object.

The *Roman theatre* at Lillebonne deserves particular notice as an interesting example of an edifice of the kind, and almost the only one existing in Northern Europe.

The most picturesque parts of Normandy are the banks of the Seine from St. Germain to Havre, and especially from Rouen downwards, though its innumerable islands planted with poplars and willows are somewhat monotonous; the vicinity of Vire and Avranches charmingly posted on a hill-top, whence the view extends to the Mont St. Michel, rising out of the sea, is peculiarly attractive. Normandy is admirably adapted for a walking tour, especially for young architects provided with sketch-books. The roads are excellent, and an occasional lift may be obtained over monotonous portions by the diligences, which are cheap and tolerably good, though the pace is slow.

The *Marine Arsenal, Dockyard,* and *Breakwater* of Cherbourg, at the extremity of the promontory of the Cotentin, which deserves to be explored for its geological peculiarities, must not be omitted among the very interesting objects of Normandy. The steamers twice a week from Southampton now give ready access direct to Cherbourg.

* J. H. Parker's 'Introduction to the Study of Gothic Architecture' contains a concise view of *French Gothic,* which will render it a useful companion to the traveller.



London, John Murray, Albemarle Street.

Skeleton Tour of 3 *Weeks through Normandy.*

Newhaven to Dieppe; or
1 Southampton to Havre: rail to Bolbec Stat.: walk to Tancarville.
3 Lillebonne.
Caudebec.
Jumièges.
4 St.-George-Boscherville.
7 Rouen.
Château Gaillard: by rail and coach.
By steamer or rail to Havre, and by steamer to Honfleur, Pont Audemer, Lisieux.
8 Caen.
10 Falaise and back: rail.
11 Bayeux: rail.
12 Valognes.
13 Cherbourg: rail.
St.-Lô.
14 Coutances, Granville.
15 Vire.
Mortain.
16 Avranches.
Mont St. Michel.
17 Dol.
18 Dinan.
19 St.-Malo, and by steamer to
21 Jersey and Southampton.—Or from Dol by Dinan to Rennes, and to Paris by rail.

ROUTE 1.

CALAIS TO PARIS, BY BOULOGNE, ABBEVILLE, AND AMIENS.—RAIL.*

Calais to	Kil.	Miles.
Boulogne	43	27
Abbeville	120	75
Amiens	165	103
Creil	245	153
Paris	294	184

2 *Express* trains daily at 1.20 A.M. and 12.35 P.M., in 5 hrs.; 3 ordinary trains in 8 to 9 hrs.

N.B.—For information as to the tidal trains from *London* to *Dover*, see *Introduction, d.*

Terminus at Calais is on the Quay, close to the landing-place. It includes the Custom-house and Passport-offices, Refreshment-room (*Buffet*), and Hotel (where good beds may be had), all under one roof. Luggage is taken from the steamer to the Custom-house, and may be cleared at once, unless it has been registered through at London, in which case it can only be examined on arriving in Paris. There is generally ample time between the arrival of the steamer and the departure of the train, for refreshment, &c.

Steamboats to and from Dover daily. French Govt. Post Office steamers, daily to and fro. The Lond. Chat. & Dov. Rly. Company's vessels leave Dover at 9·35 A.M. and 10·40 P.M., and Calais at 1·20 P.M. and 1·30 A.M. The passage is made in 1½ to 2 hrs. At low water, when steamers cannot enter Calais harbour (a rare occurrence), passengers are landed in boats (charge 3 fr.), and must wait for their luggage until the vessel enters with the tide. *Steamers* direct to London in 10 hrs. twice a week.

Calais.—*Inns:* the Station Hotel, fair; H. Dessin (formerly Quillac's)—(the H. Dessin, where Sterne and Sir Walter Scott lodged, in Rue Royale, is converted into Baths, a Museum, and Schools); H. Meurice, in the Rue de Guise.

This town of 12,900 Inhab. is a fortress of the first class, with a large citadel, and several forts, situated in a very barren and unpicturesque district, with sandhills raised by the wind and sea on the one side, and morasses on the other, contributing considerably to its military strength, but by no means to the beauty of its position. Since 1840 the strength of its works has been greatly increased, especially seaward. An English traveller of the time of James I. described it as "a beggarly, extorting town; monstrous dear and sluttish." In the opinion of many, this description will hold good at the present time.

* At the head of each route in this Handbook is placed a list of the most important stations, those at which the Express trains stop. Opposite to each is placed the distance in kilomètres and Eng. miles from the point of departure, and in the text are included the names of the more important intermediate stations, with the distances between them in Eng. miles.

London: John Murray, Albemarle Street

The *harbour*, approached by 2 parallel wooden piers, one of them nearly ¾ m. long, has 5 feet water over the bar at low-water spring-tides, not so deep as that of Boulogne; higher up, a large floating-dock for merchant vessels.

The French Government has authorised (1877) the expenditure of half a million sterling in the construction of a large reservoir and sluice with a view to reduce the bar, and a large floating-dock and new Rly. Stat. are to be commenced.

A *Lighthouse* of the first class, nearly 190 ft. high, and visible 20 m. off, is erected near the outer ramparts; and at the foot is the battery used for the trial of ordnance.

Except to an Englishman setting his foot for the first time on the Continent, to whom everything is novel, Calais has little that is remarkable, and all that there is of interest may be seen in an hour or two.

It has become a manufacturing town of some importance; the bobbin-net (tulle) trade flourishes in rivalry of that of England; numerous *mills* have sprung up; steam-engines are multiplying; and the inner ramparts have been removed, to make room for factories. Gloves and hats are also made here, and the herring-fishery and cod-fishery are extensively carried on from it on the E. coasts of Scotland and Iceland. Water, which formerly was scarce, as throughout Artois generally, has been brought from the neighbourhood of Guines.

The *Pier of Calais* is an agreeable promenade. Upon it is a column raised to commemorate the return of Louis XVIII. to France, which originally bore this inscription:—

"Le 24 Avril, 1814, S. M. Louis XVIII. débarqua vis-à-vis de cette colonne, et fut enfin rendu à l'amour des Français; pour en perpétuer le souvenir, la ville de Calais a élevé ce monument." "As an additional means of perpetuating this remembrance, a brazen plate had been let into the pavement, upon the precise spot where his foot first touched the soil. It was the left; and an English traveller noticed it in his journal as a sinistrous omen, that, when Louis le Désiré, after his exile, stepped on France, he did not put the right foot foremost."—*Quarterly Review.* At the Revolution in 1830, both inscription and foot-mark, in bronze, were removed, and are now to be seen in the *Musée* (ci-devant H. Dessin), Rue Royale, where are also a gallery of indifferent paintings, a valuable collection of coins, some interesting specimens of flint instruments from Escalles, the car and balloon in which Blanchard and Jeffries crossed from Dover to Calais in 1785, &c.

The principal *gate* leading from the sea-side into the town is that introduced by Hogarth into his well-known picture of the "Gates of Calais." It was built by Cardinal Richelieu 1635.

No one needs to be reminded of the interesting incidents of the Siege of Calais by Edward III., which lasted 11 months, and of the heroic devotion of Eustace de St. Pierre (whose house is marked by a marble slab and Latin inscription) and his 5 companions. Few, perhaps, are aware that the heroes of Calais not only went unrewarded by their own king and countrymen, but were compelled to beg their bread in misery through France. Calais remained in the hands of the English from 1347 to 1558, when it was taken by the Duc de Guise, with an army of 30,000 men, from a forlorn garrison of 500. It was the last relic of the Gallic dominions of the Plantagenets, which, at one time, comprehended one half of France. Calais was dear to the English as the prize of the valour of their forefathers, rather than from any real value which it possessed; and it is usually related that Queen Mary I. grieved so much at the loss as to say that on her death Calais would be found written on her heart.

The traveller should look at the *Hôtel de Guise*, at the end of Rue de la Prison, originally the guildhall of the mayor and aldermen of the "staple of wool," established here by Edward III. 1363. It derives its present name from the Duc de Guise, to whom it was given by Henri II. after his expulsion of the English. It has some vestiges of our

Tudor architecture. Henry VIII. used to lodge in it.

Issuing out of the Rly. Stat., and turning rt., through the Town Gate, we reach the Market Place in which stands the picturesque *Hôtel de Ville* (Town Hall). In front of it are busts of Eustace de St. Pierre; of Francis, 2nd Duc de Guise; and of Cardinal de Richelieu, who built the citadel on the W. of the town: above it rises a belfry, containing the chimes. The high tower behind the Hôtel de Ville, called *La Tour du Guet*, dates from 1214; it was used as a lighthouse until 1848, and now as a watch-tower for fires.

The principal *Church* (*Notre Dame*) was erected at the time when the English were masters of Calais. It is a handsome Gothic edifice of the 14th cent.: a modern circular chapel has been thrown out behind the choir. It is surmounted by a grey brick tower and short steeple. The fine marble high altar is the work of Adam Lottman; the picture of the "Assumption" is by Gerard Seghers.

The old town is built in the form of an oblong square, surrounded by old walls, having a gate towards the sea and one on the land side. To the latter a large modern suburb has been attached, filled with busy factories, lace-mills (for bobbinet=*tulle*), and steam-engines.

The *walls* and the *pier* command a distinct view of the white cliffs of England. More than 2000 English are said to find employment in the factories here. Many of our countrymen besides reside merely for the purpose of economising; so that the place is half Anglicised, and our language is generally spoken. The number amounted at one time to 4800 English residents in and around the town.

English Chapel, Rue des Prêtres; service on Sundays, 11 A.M., 3 P.M.: also in the *English Ch.* of St. Pierre-lèz-Calais, 11 A.M. and 6 P.M.

There is a small *theatre*; also a public *library* in the Hôtel de Ville. There is a *bathing* establishment and bathing-machines on the shore.

Railways to Boulogne, Amiens, and Paris—to Arras and Paris—to Lille and Brussels—to Mons and Namur—to Bruges, Ghent, and Antwerp.

Excursions: from Calais to St.-Pierre-lèz-Calais (2 m., see below); to Sangatte (6 m.), at the foot of the chalk cliffs, which, extending to Boulogne, form the headlands of Blanc-Nez and Gris-Nez.

On leaving the Terminus on the Quai the *Rly. to Paris* skirts the N.W. angle of the Citadel.

2 m. *St.-Pierre-lèz*-Calais* Stat., the great manufacturing suburb of Calais (17,294 Inhab.), more populous than the town itself, and the great seat of the machine-made *lace manufacture*, established by English capital since 1819. Many weavers from Nottingham are settled here, for whose use a neat *Gothic Ch.* was built 1862. It also contains several large timber yards and metal foundries.

10 m. *Caffiers* Stat. for *Guines*, 3 m. distant to the E. Near this, at *Fiennes*, are coal-mines, and in the neighbouring forest, about 3 m. from the town, a pyramid to mark the spot where the aëronauts Blanchard and Jeffreys, after having crossed the Channel from England, descended in 1785. Roads run from St.-Tricat and Caffiers on the rt. to the village of *Ouessant*, or Witsand, on the sea-shore, about 4 m. N. of Cape Gris-Nez: it is supposed to be the *Portus Itius* of the Romans, where Julius Cæsar embarked for the conquest of Britain. The harbour has long since been blocked up with sand; yet it was for centuries the landing-place for passengers from England, and was one of the ports in which Napoleon's fleet of flat-bottomed boats was stationed. Beyond Caffiers the rly. ascends until it reaches its summit-level (360 feet), from which there is a steep descent to

6 m. *Marquise* Stat., a town of 4380 Inhab., having in its neighbourhood mines of coal, iron-works, and quarries of grey limestone, situated in a pretty valley of rocks, occupying a deep fissure in the plain, resembling Dovedale. This is a favourite excursion

* Lèz—old French = *near*, from "latus."

from Boulogne. The Stat. is about 1½ m. E. of the town.

[*Ambleteuse*, a village on the coast, and deserted port, deserves mention only as the spot where James II. disembarked, Jan. 5, 1689.]

6½ m. *Wimille* Stat. In the churchyard of the village, at the road-side, 3 m. from Boulogne, the unfortunate aëronauts, Pilâtre de Rosier and Romain, are buried; the balloon in which they had ascended from Boulogne (1785), intending to cross the Channel, caught fire at an elevation of 3600 ft., and they were miserably dashed to pieces. An obelisk has been erected on the spot where they fell near Wimereux. On the beach of Wimereux, Aug. 6, 1840, the late Emp. Napoleon III. landed, with a few followers, on his premature attempt to seize the throne.

Before reaching Wimille Stat. the line passes near to Wimereux, and on leaving on l. the Fort of Honvault and the Colonne de la Grande Armée are seen. To reach Boulogne it penetrates by 2 tunnels, first through a hill on N.W. side, connected, by a bridge and cutting through the Tintelleries, with the second tunnel, beneath the upper town of Boulogne. It afterwards crosses a viaduct of 400 yds. over the Liane, before joining the rly. from Amiens and Paris and reaching the

4 m. **Boulogne** Stat. (*Buffet*). For the description of the town and remainder of the Rte. to

157 m. *Paris*, see Rte. 3.

ROUTE 1A.

CALAIS TO PARIS, BY ST. OMER, HAZEBROUCK, ARRAS, AND AMIENS—RAIL.

Calais to	Kil.	Miles.
St. Omer	42	26
Hazebrouck	62	38½
Béthune	97	60
Arras	139	86
Longueau (Amiens)	200	124
Creil	276	171
Paris	327	203

4 trains daily, in 8 to 10 hrs.

This Route is 18½ m. longer than Rte. 1, and the trains are not so convenient for through traffic, but there are several towns of interest to the traveller visiting for the first time the N. of France.

Calais and the Rly. as far as

2 m. *St.-Pierre-lèz-Calais* Stat., is described in Rte. 1.

After leaving on rt. the rly. to Boulogne, the line runs by the side of the river Aa: and crosses the Canal d'Ardres, near the Pont Sans Pareil.

The country about Calais and St. Omer is like parts of Holland, low and intersected by ditches, and traversed by rows of pollard willows and osiers, useful for making baskets. It is drained by the canal de St. Omer, which falls into the sea at Calais: the tides are kept out by embankments. The villages are composed chiefly of mud cottages. The peasants, men as well as women, are frequently seen mounted on high pattens to avoid the mud. By means of the ditches or little canals running along the sides of the fields, farm produce is conveyed in narrow boats, so that carts and horses are scarcely used.

7 m. *Ardres* Stat., a dismantled fortress, 1850. 2189 Inhab. The town 3 m. from the stat.

The plain between this place and *Guines*, a little to the W. of the road, is the *Field of the Cloth of Gold*, the scene of the meeting between Henry VIII. and Francis I., 1520, with their suites of 5696 persons and 4325 horses, so called from the cloth of gold with which the tents and pavilions of the monarchs were covered. The Field is 4 m. from Guines, near the village of Balinghem, 2 m. from Ardres.

12 m. *Watten* Junct. Stat. [Branch *Rly.* to Gravelines (see Rte. 189).]

5½ m. **St.-Omer** Junct. Stat., outside the old bastions. (*Inns:* H. de la Porte d'Or et d'Angleterre; H. du Commerce.)

This is a first-class fortress, whose means of defence lie less in its actual fortifications than in the marshes which surround it, and the facility afforded by the river Aa, on which it stands, of flooding the land round about, so as to leave only ¼ of its circuit unprotected by the waters. Although it contains a population of 22,400 souls, it is a dull place. There are, however, two ecclesiastical edifices worthy of notice.

The *Cathedral of Notre Dame* (M.H.), at the upper end of the Rue St. Bertin, is a fine building, showing the transition from the round to the pointed style. The arrangement of the chapels round the apse is very good. Transepts very large. *Obs.* the S. transept doorway, and the incised slabs removed from the floor and placed against the walls of a S. side-chapel.

rt. Close to the Stat., at the opposite extremity of the same street, stand the scanty remains of the famous Benedictine *Abbey Ch. of St. Bertin*, at one time the noblest Gothic monument of French Flanders—in its present state a disgrace to the town, and a reproach to the Government; for be it known that its destruction has been perpetrated since 1830! At the outbreak of the great Revolution the monastery was suppressed; the Convention spared the church; and though under the Directory it was sold for the materials, unroofed, and stripped of its woodwork and metal, yet its walls remained comparatively uninjured until the magistrates barbarously pulled it down to afford employment to some labourers out of work, and to build the new Hôtel de Ville. The fragment remaining consists of a stately **Tower* (M. H.) built in the 15th century (1431-1520), displaying ornaments of the florid Gothic in the mutilated panelling on its walls, and bits of tracery in its windows; a small portion of the nave remains attached to it. The tower, threatening to fall, has been propped by an ugly, ill-contrived buttress of masonry; there is some talk of converting it into a museum. The town is well seen from its top, but there is nothing else of interest in the view. Within the walls of the Abbey of St. Bertin the feeble Childeric III., the last king of the first race, ended his days in 755; here also Becket sought refuge when a fugitive from England.

The other objects of interest at St. Omer are the chs. of St. Sepulchre (14th cent.) and of St. Denis; the modern Hôtel de Ville; the Artillery Arsenal, one of the most remarkable in the N. of France; the *Museum* in the *Hôtel du Balliage*, on the Grand Place; the Lycée, containing the *Public Library*.

A *Seminary* for the education of English and Irish Roman Catholics exists here: it has replaced the *Jesuits' College* founded by Father Parsons for the education of Englishmen. Daniel O'Connell was brought up here for the priesthood; and several of the conspirators engaged in the Gunpowder Plot were pupils of the same school. There are not more than 15 or 20 students at present. A large military hospital occupies the site of the convent and chapel in which Dr. Alban Butler, author of 'Lives of the Saints,' was buried (1773). Several English reside here. *English Chapel*, Rue du Bon Pasteur, Sunday, 11 and 3.

[Branch Rly. W. 40 m. to Boulogne (see Rte. 3)].

Canals to Calais and to Aire.

[About 20 m. S. of St.-Omer is *Azincour*, a village of farms and peasants' cottages, uninteresting but for its *battle-field*. Only the foundations remain of the castle mentioned by Shakspeare "that stands hard by." Azincour lies on the l. of the high road from St.-Omer to Abbeville, which passes through the village of Ruisseauville, mentioned in all the accounts of the battle. The hottest of the fight raged between Azincour and the commune of Tramecour, where a wood still exists corresponding with that in which Henry posted his archers, who contributed so much to the victory, each armed with an iron-pointed stake, to fix in the ground before him and to serve the purpose of the modern bayonet.

Henry, like his great-grandfather Edward III. previous to Crécy, had marched, with a force of 9000 men, through a hostile country, from Harfleur on his way to Calais. On reaching the Somme below Abbeville he found the ford, by which Edward had crossed, staked, and was obliged to continue up the l. bank, finding every passage fortified and every bridge broken, until he arrived above Amiens, where he gained the rt. bank by a ford which had been left open. The French army, though more than six times the number of the English, retreated before him beyond St. Pol,

and there drew up across the road to Calais to dispute his passage. There is thus a considerable similarity in the events attending the victories of Crécy and Azincour, and these two famous battle-fields are not more than 20 m. apart (see Rte. 3).]

13 m. *Hazebrouck* Junct. Stat. (*Buffet*) (*Inns:* H. des Trois Chevaux; H. St. George). [*Rly.* E. to Lille and Brussels, see Rte. 2—N.E. to Poperinghe for Ypres, &c.—N. to Dunkirk, see Rte. 188.]

A flourishing town, quite Flemish in character, with 9500 Inhab. The *Ch.* of St. Nicholas (M. H.) is surmounted by a beautiful spire 260 ft. high, of open work, built 1493–1520.

The Rly. to Paris continues over the flat but fertile plain of Artois to

11 m. *Aire* Junct. Stat., 4 m. from the town (*Inns:* H. de la Clef d'Or; H. d'Angleterre); Pop. 8803; a fortified town of the 2nd class, on the Lys; the *Ch.* of St. Pierre is highly ornamented. The adjoining district is one of the richest in French Flanders. [Branch *Rly.* N.E. to Armentières.]

4 m. *Lillers* Stat. The first artesian well was sunk here in the 12th cent.; it may be seen in the gardens of a suppressed Dominican convent.

8 m. *Béthune* Junct. Stat. [Rly. E. to Lille by Violaines, and S. to St. Pol and Doullens.] (*Inn:* H. du Nord). A fortress of the 3rd class by Vauban; Pop. 8178. The *Beffroi*, erected in 1388, and the *Ch.* of St. Vaast, remarkable. There are several beet-root sugar manufactories hereabouts. Rly. in progress to *St.-Pol*, and thence branches to Étaples, Arras, and Abbeville.

6 m. *Bully-Grenay* Junct. Stat. [Rly. to Violaines on the line from Béthune to Lille.] Nearly a mile to the S.E. is a tree marking the spot where the Prince de Condé stood during the *Battle of Lens*, 20 Aug. 1648, when the Spaniards were entirely defeated by the French.

4 m. *Lens* Junct. Stat. [Rly. to Carvin, on line from Lille to Douai (see Rte. 2A)].

9 m. **Arras** Junct. (*Buffet*). Stat. outside and to S. of town. Omnibus from Rly. (*Inns:* H. Petit St.-Pol, best situation; H. du Griffon; H. de l'Univers). Pop. 25,905. A large, fine city, and first-class fortress on the rt. bank of the Scarpe, which the Cinchon here joins after traversing the town, and consisting of a *Haute* and *Basse* Ville with suburbs outside the fortifications. It is on the site of the ancient *Nemetacum*, the capital of the Atrebates, and was formerly the capital of the Pays d'Artois, and now is chief town of the dépt. du Pas de Calais.

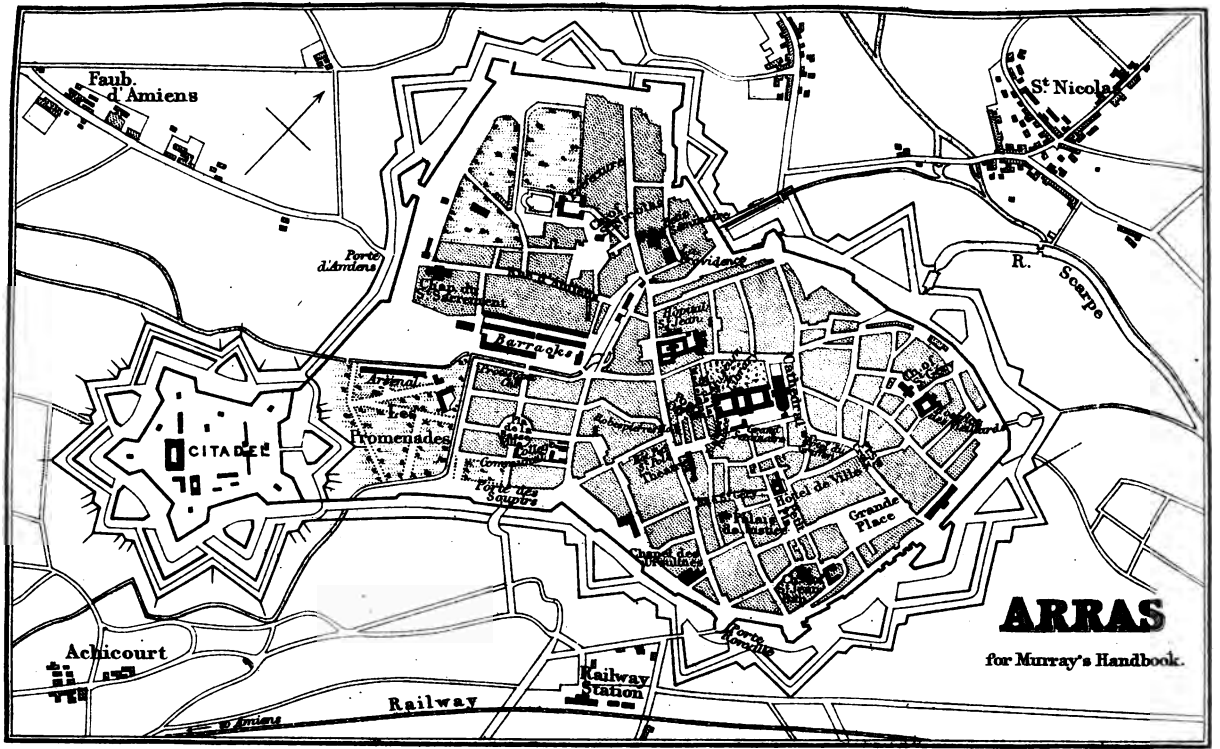
May be seen in two hours thus: Entering the town from the Rly. Stat. by the *Porte Ronville*, and descending the street facing it, on l. is seen the pyramidal spire of the *Chapel des Ursulines*, an elegant structure raised in 1865 on the site of an older building which was connected with the legend of the Sainte Chandelle, and the plague which raged here in the 12th cent. Admittance to the transept may be gained on application at the principal door of the convent.

Continuing down the street and turning to the rt. up the Rue St. Géry and passing the *Paluis de Justice*, the highly picturesque **Petite Place* is reached, situated in the highest part of the town, with Gothic gable-faced houses supported on arcades, and the western side occupied by the (M. H.) **Hôtel de Ville*, one of the most beautiful buildings of the kind in France, dating from 1510, now completely detached, a new wing added, and the whole carefully restored. The façade consists of a Gothic arcade under windows in the same style, with a sloping roof surmounted by a tall *Beffroi*, rebuilt in 1834. The very elegant Renaissance wings resemble our highly enriched Elizabethan. The reception rooms on the first floor are exquisite specimens of fine oak carving.

Behind the eastern side of this square is the

Ch. of St. Jean Baptiste, dating from 1584,—a modern restoration.

The N.E. angle of the same square communicates with the *Grande Place*, in the same style, but larger than the



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other; *obs.* the house No. 49, date 13th cent.

Leaving this square at the N.W. angle, and crossing the Place St. Croix, and continuing down the street, leaving the *Hôtel du Griffon*, in the Rue des Trois Visages, to the l., the N. door is reached of the

Cathedral, an Italian edifice, in the form of a Latin cross, with flying buttresses, completed in 1833, with the exception of the tower, which is still wanting. It occupies the site of a building erected in the 7th cent. by St. Aubert, Bishop of Cambrai and of Arras, to serve as a mausoleum for the body of St. Vaast, the patron saint of the town, and as a church for the adjoining Abbey, and which, after being repeatedly burnt down and rebuilt and much damaged during the siege of the town by Louis XI. in 1477, was finally demolished as insecure in 1741, and the building subsequently erected destroyed with the other churches during the great Revolution, which raged here with exceeding violence.

The interior, supported on classic columns with side aisles and transepts, is plain but handsome, and contains several good paintings and sepulchral monuments from the Abbey of St. Vaast. *Obs.*—in the N. transept, two *triptychs* of the early Flemish school; that of the Adoration of the Magi (date 1528) is said to be by the same artist (Bellegambe) as the altar-piece at Douai—in the Circular chapel behind the high altar, a white marble statue of Cardinal de la Tour d'Auvergne—in the chapel of St. Vaast, statues of Philip de Torcy, governor of the town in 1652, and of his wife.

Descending the flight of steps at the W. front and skirting the adjoining *Public Gardens*, the W. wing is reached of the large pile of buildings. formerly the Benedictine Abbey of St. Vaast, founded in the 6th cent. by that saint, and reconstructed in 1754 by the Cardinal de Rohan, now appropriated to the Bishop's Palace, Seminary, Museum, and Library.

The *Chapel of the Bishop's Palace* contains numerous relics, including the blood-stained *Rochet* which Becket wore when he was murdered at Canterbury (1170).

The *Museum*, situated in the W. wing and entered from the garden, contains a *gallery of paintings*, chiefly modern. *Obs.* a *Maës* (No. 86), a *Jordaens*, and a *Delacroix* (*Eug.*). Several rooms are filled with interesting ethnographical, numismatical, and archæological collections. *Obs.*, on staircase, some specimens (date 1672) of the *Tapestry* (arazzi) for the extensive manufacture of which this town was in olden time famous.

The *Public Library* contains upwards of 40,000 vols. and 1100 manuscripts, chiefly formed from that of St. Vaast.

Crossing the Place de la Madeleine, and leaving the *Post Office* on the l., the Rue de la Gouvernance leads into the Rue des Rapporteurs, half-way down which on rt. is the

House in which Robespierre was born. He and his brother, abandoned by their father in their childhood, were educated at the college here by the charity of some of the clergy of St. Vaast.

This street leads into the Place du Théâtre, in which is the *Theatre* and the *Hôt. Petit St.-Pol.* Leaving the latter on the l. and turning out of the Rue St. Aubert down the Rue des Gaugiers, the *Barracks* will be reached (opposite which, in the Rue des Casernes, is the *Prot. Temple*), and at their back the Rue d'Amiens, having at its western extremity and close to the *Porte d'Amiens* the pretty

Chapel du St. Sacrament, built in 1845 in the Flamboyant style. Following the *Ramparts*, the appearance of which has been somewhat spoiled by the cutting down of the trees on the glacis during the war of 1870, the fine shady *Public Promenade* will be reached, beyond which is the

Citadel, the work of Vauban, now useless, as modern artillery could command it from neighbouring eminences.

Returning across the Promenade, the S. side of the *Place de la Basse Ville* will lead to the *Porte des Soupirs*, from which the rly. stat. may be gained.

This is one of the largest corn-mar-

kets in France, and an important trade is carried on in the rich agricultural products of the district: beet-root, sugar, rape-oil, chicory, and grain. Some china and pottery are manufactured, and a great deal of lace. With the exception of the départs. of the Seine and of the Bouches du Rhône, containing the cities of Paris and Marseilles respectively, the départ. du Pas de Calais has more inhab. than any other in France, due to the great number of large and prosperous villages scattered over the district.

Damiens, who attempted to assassinate Louis XV., and the infamous revolutionary leader Joseph Lebon, were natives of Arras.

[Branch *Rly.* W. 23 m. to *St. Pol*, by which Azincour can be visited—S.W. through *Doullens* to *Longpré*.]

Soon after leaving Arras the rly. quits the valley of the Scarpe.

15 m. *Achiet* Junct. Stat. A sharp skirmish occurred here Jan. 1, 1871, between the French under Faidherbe and the Germans under von Göben, ending in severe fighting two days later at *Bapaume* without any decisive results.

[Branch Rly. to (4 m.) *Bapaume*. (*Inns:* H. du Pas de Calais; H. de la Fleur.) Pop. 3174. The *Ch. of St. Nicolas* (1560) is handsome, and contains some modern painted glass. The four-storeyed *Beffroi* of the Hôtel de Ville dates from 1610. A part of the fortifications still remain, although dismantled under Louis-Philippe. Fine view over the plains of Artois and Picardy from the ruined *donjon*. The principal trade consists in sugar, linen, cambric, &c.]

11 m. *Albert* Stat. Diligence to Peronne (16 m.).

10 m. *Corbie* Stat. Omnibus from rly. (*Inn:* H. Ville d'Amiens.) A town of 3346 Inhab., with a Gothic *Ch. of St. Pierre* (M. H.), forming part of an ancient Benedictine *abbey*. *Obs.* in the chapel to the rt. on entering, statue of St. Bathilde, of the early part of the 14th cent., pronounced by M. de Montalembert as one of the finest that exists, but spoiled by being painted. Also the white marble statues of St. Peter and St. Paul, and "La Sainte Face," a Byzantine picture said to have been brought from the East at the time of the Crusades.

The rly. crosses the Somme three times, and passes some considerable peat-works before reaching

8 m. *Longueau* Junct. Stat. (*Buffet*). Passengers for *Amiens* (2½ m. distant), Abbeville, and Boulogne, here change carriages. For the description of

Amiens and the remainder of the line to

79 m. *Paris*, see Rte. 3.

ROUTE 2.

CALAIS TO BRUSSELS, BY HAZEBROUCK, ARMENTIÈRES, LILLE AND TOURNAI.—RAIL.

Calais to	Kil.	Miles.
Hazebrouck	62	38½
Lille	106	66
Tournai	130	81
Brussels	237	142

Time, 5 to 8 hrs.; *two express trains* daily.

This is the shortest route; the other, by Douai, Valenciennes, and Mons, is more interesting.

Calais is described in Rte. 1, and the rly. as far as

38½ m. *Hazebrouck* Stat. is described in Rte. 1A. The line continues through *Strazeele* and *Bailleul* Stats. to

12 m. *Armentières* Junct. Stat., a town of 15,579 Inhab., consisting for the most part of weavers, on the Lys. *English Ch. Service* here on Sundays. [Branch *Rly.* N.E. to Comines—S.W. to Aire.]

Then passing *Perenchies* Stat. the rly. skirts the fortifications of Lille, and joins the Belgian line near the Porte de Fives. Some trains stop here, others traverse the ramparts to

16 m. **Lille** (Flem. *Ryssel*) Junct. Stat. (*Buffet*); omnibus from rly. (*Inns:* H. de l'Europe in the Rue Basse; H. de France and H. Villeroy

(Restaurant), both in the Rue Esquermoise; H. de Gand, on the Grande Place—none very good; H. du Buffet, at the stat., convenient for starting early.)

Post-office, near the Prefecture, on the Boulevard de la Liberté. *Telegraph-office* at the Rly. Stat.

This chief town of the dépt. du Nord, and former capital of French Flanders, with a pop. exceeding 170,000, is important both as a fortress of the first order for its strength, forming the central point of the defence of France on her N. frontier, and as a populous and industrious manufacturing town, ranking fifth among the cities of France. It was captured from the Spaniards by Louis XIV. in 1667, and at different periods and under different masters has stood 7 distinct sieges; one of the most remarkable being that by the allied armies of Marlborough and Eugene in 1708, of 3 months' duration, during which the war was not merely waged above ground, but the most bloody combats were fought below the surface between the miners of the opposite armies, each endeavouring to undermine the galleries of his opponent. The siege was considered an act of rashness, as the French in the field under Vendôme were actually as numerous as Marlborough's army, and advanced to relieve the place. Marlborough, however, took up his positions so skilfully that the relieving army was unable to effect anything, and Boufflers, the French commander of the town, after a masterly defence, was compelled to capitulate, but upon most honourable terms. It was finally restored to France by the treaty of Utrecht, 1715.

No city has undergone of late years greater improvements than Lille. To include its faubourgs the greater part of the walls have been pulled down, and handsome boulevards erected on their sites, whilst a new system of fortified lines 4 m. in circuit has been constructed; but there are few public buildings proportioned to the size and wealth of the city; its monuments have been levelled by shot and shell, and its objects of interest for the passing traveller, unless he be a military man, are few, and, with the occasional aid of an omnibus or fiacre, may be seen in about 3 hours in the following order.

From the Rly. Stat. (the stone façade of which was formerly the front of the Gare du Nord at Paris, but removed here in 1863), by the Rue de la Gare past the *Theatre* to the *Bourse* (M. H.), a richly ornamented building in the Spanish style, erected 1652 (in the court is a statue of Napoleon I., as protector of National Industry), and the *Statue of Lille*, a granite column surmounted by an allegorical figure, in memory of the citizens who fell during the 9 days' bombardment of the town in 1792 by the Austrians under the Duke of Saxe-Coburg, who was compelled to raise the siege.

Leaving the Grande Place at the S. corner, a short street leads to the

Mairie, in the Place Rihour, mostly rebuilt in 1849, but retaining portions of 15th cent. At the N.W. angle still stand the brick Gothic chapel and towers, which are parts of an ancient palace of the Dukes of Burgundy, built by Jean-sans-Peur, 1430, and inhabited by the Emp. Charles V. In it is the Council chamber (*Salle du Conclave*), the walls of which are decorated with paintings by *Arnold de Veuez*, 1726. The second floor is appropriated to a

Museum and *School of Art*. From the door on l. at top of staircase a gallery of *pictures*, of more or less merit, extends through 6 rooms. In the 2nd on the S. wall should be noticed 2 by *Rubens* (Nos. 309, 310), a Death of the Magdalen and the Virgin and St. Francis, both from a ch. at Ghent; and several works by *A. de Vuez* (a native artist, b. 1642), and the Medea by *Eugene Delacroix* alone deserve notice.

The Museum, however, possesses a treasure of art, scarcely surpassed in Europe, in the collection of Drawings by Old Masters, bequeathed to the town by *Chev. Wicar* (a native of Lille, and many years resident in Rome). It contains a highly interesting and valuable collection kept covered up (apply to the attendant) of

drawings by the old Italian masters, upwards of 1300 in number, including several by *Raphael*, *Masaccio*, *Fra Bartolomeo*, *Michael Angelo*, &c., and a female bust in wax attributed to *Raphael*; probably a Madonna, the gem of the collection. Beyond the Picture Gallery is the *Musée Moillet*, an interesting ethnographical collection, also the gift of a citizen.

The Public Library (*Bibliothèque communale*), in the same building, contains upwards of 40,000 vols. and some 500 manuscripts.

Returning across the Grande Place, passing the end of the *Rue Esquermoise*, in which are very handsome shops, and proceeding N. near the Place St. Martin, is the

Ch. of Notre Dame de la Treille, a very pretentious Gothic building begun 1855 by a Lillois architect, but now permanently roofed in before it is half completed.

Just N. of this, on the Quai of the Canal de la Basse Deule, is the large *Palais de Justice* built of stone in 1837, with brick wings used as prisons. Proceeding down the *Rue Royale*, a street nearly a mile long, containing *huge storehouses for corn*, and turning l. past the Church of St. André, a short street leads to the *Esplanade*, a handsome wide promenade, or public walk, planted with trees, and having at its N. extremity the *Statue of Gen. Négrier*, slain in the republican revolt of June 25, 1848, at Paris, in putting down the insurgents.

Passing S. down the Esplanade, a road to the rt. leads to the

Citadel, which passed for a masterpiece of the skill of Vauban, who was governor of it for many years. It is a regular pentagon, furnished with all the accessories which engineering skill can suggest, especially since the siege of 1792, and so strong, because commanded by no point, and capable of isolation by breaking the dykes of the canals of the Haute, Moyenne, and Basse Deule which traverse the town, and fill its wide moats, that it is deemed impregnable. A great deal of misery, however, and enormous destruction of property, and injury to agriculture, would follow such an inundation.

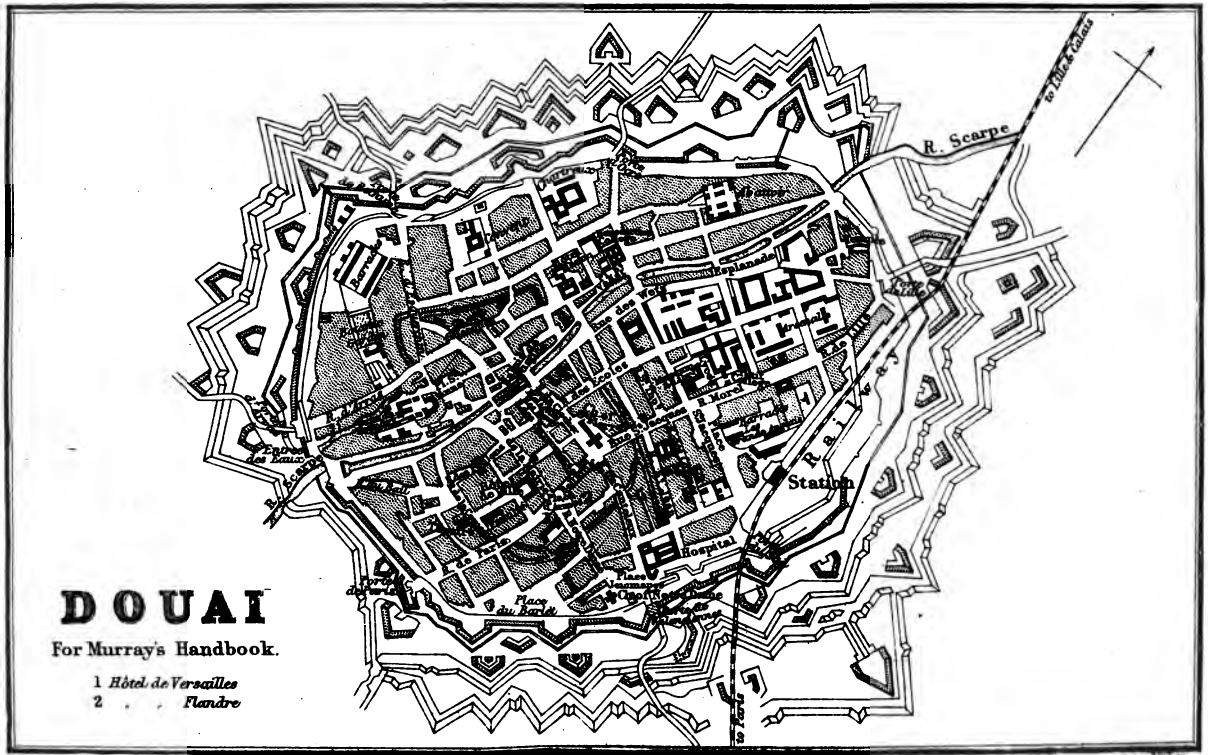
The Faubourg Wazemmes (in which is a *Romanesque-Byzantine Church* with a tall spire, built 1860) may be reached by the handsome *Boulevard Vauban*. Returning northward across the Place de la République, in which is the *Préfecture*, a splendid building, the exterior of which was just finished when the Franco-German war broke out, and then used as the principal storehouse of the Armée du Nord.

At the end of the Rue de Paris, and near the Rly. Stat., will be seen the *Ch. of St. Maurice*, in the Gothic style of the 16th cent. resting on slender piers, with double aisles on each side of the nave, all of equal height. It has been considerably lengthened, and a very imposing W. front and spire were added in 1874.

An *Eng. Ch.*, Gothic, of brick and stone, to hold 200, was built in 1870 in the Rue l'Yderic; service twice on Sunday. The French *Prot. Ch.* is in the Rue Jeanne d'Arc.

The tall chimneys of numerous mills, even within the walls, announce the active industry which is working here, while the country around, and indeed a large part of the dépt. du Nord, is like a hive in population and activity, not unworthy of being compared with parts of Lancashire and the West Riding. The chief *manufacture* is that of *flax*, which is extensively grown in the vicinity, and is spun into ordinary thread, and twisted to form the kind called *Lille thread*, by old-fashioned machines moved by the hand: besides which much linen is woven here. In the spinning of *cotton*, Lille has become a rival of Manchester and Rouen. The extraction of *oils* from rape or colza and the *seeds* of poppies, linseed, &c., and the manufacture of *sugar from beetroot*, are very important, having given a great impulse to agriculture, as well as employing many thousand hands and upwards of 600 windmills in the Commune des Moulins alone.

Rlys. S.W. 14 m. to *Violaines* Junct. Stat. (whence branch 7 m. to *Béthune* Stat., and 6 m. to *Bully-Grenay* Stat.,



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both on line from Hazebrouck to Arras, see Rte. 1).—S.E. 30 m. to *Valenciennes* (Rte. 184) by Orchies and *St. Amand des Eaux*, a town of 10,600 Inhab., where are ruins of a Benedictine *Abbey* of the 17th cent., and a fine *Ch.* (M. H.)—N. to Comines—N.E. to Brussels by Roubaix and Mouscron, see Part II. Rte. 186—S. to Douai, see Rte. 2A.

The line to Brussels proceeds to

5 m. *Asiq* Stat. 4 m. to the S.E. lies *Bouvines*, celebrated for the battle between Philip Augustus of France and the Emperor Otho in 1214.

3 m. *Baisieux* Stat. The frontier is crossed 2 m. beyond this, and the line proceeds through *Blandain* and *Tournai* to

60 m. **Brussels.** See *Hdbk. for Holland and Belgium.*

ROUTE 2A.

LILLE TO DOUAI—RAIL.

Distance, 21 m.; *time*, ¾ hr.; *trains*, 13 daily.

Lille is described in Rte. 2. This Rly. proceeds S. through

7 m. *Séclin* Stat., a town of 5100 Inhab., engaged in spinning.

5 m. *Carvin* Junct. Stat. [Branch Rly. 12 m. S. W. to *Sens* on the line to Arras, see Rte. 1A.]

9 m. **Douai** Junct. (*Buffet*). Stat. to the E. of town and inside fortifications. Omnibus from Rly. (*Inns:* H. de Versailles; H. de l'Europe; H. de Flandre; H. du Commerce.) A large inanimate town and fortress of 24,105 Inhab., seated on both banks of the Scarpe, defended by a detached fort, about 1½ m. distant, and important from its great military and scholastic institutions.

May be seen in 2 hours thus:—

From the rly. stat. turning down the *Place St. Jacques* on the rt. are the Cavalry Barracks *aux Grands Anglais*, formerly the *English College*, or seminary, founded in 1569 by Cardinal Allen, an Englishman, for the education of Catholic priests for England. On the outbreak of the Revolution, some of the students fled to England, but those that lingered were in 1793 imprisoned in the citadel of Doullens, whence a few effected their escape. On the release of English prisoners on the fall of Robespierre in 1795, the remainder reached England, and in 1808 were settled in the large Catholic College of St. Cuthbert's, at Ushaw, near Durham. The *Benedictine College* in the Rue Benoit is the only one remaining of the English, Scotch, and Irish seminaries formerly existing here. Crossing the Rue Morel, and proceeding down the Rue de la Charte, the ancient convent of the Jesuits is seen on the rt., now appropriated to the

1. *Public Library*, containing upwards of 40,000 vols., besides nearly 1000 MSS., some of great interest, from the suppressed monastic institutions, including the English and Scotch convents.

2. *Museum of Natural History and of Antiquities* (old records of the family of Lalaing, &c.) *and* PICTURES (chiefly of the old Flemish school; *obs.* a Pan and Ceres, by *Rubens*, the landscape by Breughel, and the portrait of a lady by *P. Veronese*), and recently enriched by an interesting *ethnographical* collection, the gift of M. Berthoud.

Adjoining this building are those of the *Lycée* and *Petit Collège*, in the Rue des Écoles, at the end of which are the extensive workshops, &c., of the *Arsenal*, created by Louis XIV., and one of the most important in France.

At the S. end of the Rue des Écoles will be seen on l. the *Ch. of St. Pierre*, remarkable only for its size and the Circular chapel behind the high altar.

The Rue de Bellaing, containing the best shops in the town, leads to the Rue de la Mairie, in which is seen the northern façade of the

Hôtel de Ville (M. H.), a Gothic building dating from the end of the 15th cent., with, as usual in Flemish towns, a very picturesque *Beffroi*. The whole has now been well restored, and there are some elegant reception rooms on the first floor. The building runs through to the Rue des Minmes, where the best view is obtained.

The Rue de le Mairie leads W. towards the S.W. portion of the town,

owes a large part of its contents to private donations. The series of arms, dresses, implements, weapons, &c., of various nations, is very extensive. Here is an imaginary model of the Tower of Caligula, which stood on the heights above the town: also engravings of the siege of Boulogne under Henry VIII.; some fragments of sculpture of the 15th and 16th cents. from churches, &c.; a bas-relief of the Last Judgment, carved in wood very elaborately; an extensive series of medals,—among them that celebrated one struck by Napoleon 1804, and bearing the inscription "Descente en Angleterre," "Frappé à Londres," of which 3 impressions alone are said to exist, the die having been destroyed. The quantity of Roman antiquities, of pottery, glass, bronzes, coins, utensils of various kinds, found in and about the town, is remarkable.—*Obs.* a collection of siege pieces, or coins struck in besieged towns; a series of French Assignats, or paper money issued during the first Revolution; a mummy pronounced by Champollion one of the finest in Europe, for the number and brilliancy of its paintings, &c.; it was brought from Biban el Molouk by Denon.

The collections have so much increased of late years, that it has been found necessary to remove the industrial portion, models, &c., to the old Ecole de l'Enseignement mutuel in the Rue d'Artois, now called the *Musée Industriel.*

The *natural history* collections are good. The geology of the district is illustrated by a large series of specimens, including the ironstone of the Boulonais, the marbles of Marquise, and the coal. In the *Picture Gallery* there is a good sea-piece by *Auguste Delacroix.*

Under the same roof is the *Public Library*, containing 30,000 volumes and 300 MSS., many of them rare and richly illuminated, including the oldest copy extant of Bede's 'Homilies,' from the monastery of St. Bertin. The library is open every day except Friday, from 10 A.M. till 4 P.M.

The *Old Town*, or *Haute Ville*, on the hill, retains its 3 arched gateways, and the ancient ramparts which defended it in the 15th cent., but offered a vain resistance to the assaults of the army of Henry VIII, 1544. The town was restored, however, to Henri II. of France by the English (1550), in the reign of Edward VI., by treaty, upon payment of 40,000 livres. A bronze *bust* of *Henri* (by David d'Angers) decorates the *Esplanade* outside the Porte des Dunes. The *Ramparts* form an agreeable walk, running round the town, and commanding views in all directions, over the sea, port, cathedral, and the high ground to the E., occupied in turn by the camps of Caligula, Henry VIII., Napoleon I., and Napoleon III. (1854-55), and along the roads to Calais and Paris. In the E. angle of the walls is the *Château*, or old Castle, flanked by high round towers, and divided from the town by a fosse, but now much modernised and converted into a barrack. The late Emp. Napoleon III. was confined here after his abortive attempt to excite an insurrection on Aug. 6, 1840.

The *Hotel de Ville*, near the W. side of the old town, was built 1734, and restored in 1854. It is said to occupy the site of the palace where Godfrey of Bouillon was born 1066. Behind it rises the antique *Beffroi* of the 13th cent., a square massive tower at its base, surmounted by an octagonal one, from the top of which there is a magnificent view.

The conspicuous **Cathedral of Notre Dame*, in the Haute Ville, is a large modern Italian building on the site of the Gothic cathedral pulled down at the Revolution, and has been in progress since 1827, and consecrated 1866. The cost has been defrayed by subscription set on foot by a simple priest and self-taught architect, the Abbé Haffreingue. The dome rises to a height of 300 ft. (fine view from top). Beneath the ch. extends a very capacious ancient *crypt*, supported on 2 rows of piers, 315 ft. long and 140 wide at the transepts, supposed to be the substructions of the ch. built in the 12th cent. by Ida of Lorraine, mother of Godfrey of Bouillon: an inscription, however, in the vault attributes it to the 7th cent. The tradition is, that a boat, without sails or oars, brought an image of the

Virgin to the neighbouring shore in 633. It was a frequent object of pilgrimage in the middle ages, and of late years the custom has revived. The high altar, a gift of Prince Torlonia, of Rome, is a fine specimen of modern art. The tabernacle over it is a copy of the Arch of Constantine.

Le Sage, the author of Gil Blas, who repaired to Boulogne in the latter years of his life to live with his second son, a canon of the cathedral, died 1747, in a house, No. 3, Rue du Château, as an inscription over the door points out. The existing building, however, is of much more recent date, and only occupies the site of the original house. *Churchill* the poet also died at Boulogne, whither he had come on a visit to *John Wilkes*, then a voluntary exile from England. *Thos. Campbell*, author of 'Pleasures of Hope,' died at 5 Rue St. Jean, 1844, but is buried in Westminster Abbey.

At *Capecure* are several manufactories, amongst which a large flax-mill has been built, with 2 steam-engines, 6000 spindles, employing 1000 people.

Engl. Prot. Service.—The *British Episcopal Ch.*, 9 Rue du Temple, built by English subscriptions, 1828, and capable of holding 1000 persons. *St. John's Church*, Rue de l'Ancien Rivage, or through No. 139 Rue Royale. *Trinity Ch.*, Place des Capucins, belonging to the Colonial and Continental Ch. Society. There is a Wesleyan chapel in an abandoned theatre in the Rue de l'Ancienne Comédie.

Post-office, 28 Rue des Vieillards; it is open from 7 A.M. to 7 P.M.; on Sundays and Fêtes, 7 A.M. till 3 P.M. The *British Vice-Consul* resides at 20 Rue des Pipots. Office hours, 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.

Theatre, in the Rue Monsigny, replacing the one destroyed by fire in 1854. It holds 1000 persons, and is open 4 times a-week.

Merridew, *British and Foreign Library*, 60 Rue de l'Écu, keeps an *English reading-room* and circulating library, a good supply of English periodicals, &c. Pianos on hire. His 'Guide to Boulogne,' 1½ fr., is very complete, and useful for residents.

Physician: Dr. Walker, 33 *bis* Rue de l'Écu, is attentive.

On the edge of the cliff, above the sea-bathing "establishment," are the scanty remains of solid brick walls known as *La Tour d'Ordre* (Turris Ardens, *i.e.* lighthouse), supposed to have been the foundations of a tower built by Caligula, A.D. 40, when he marched to the shores of the Channel with an army of 100,000 men, boasting that he intended to invade the opposite coast of Britain, but contenting himself with gathering a few shells, which he called the spoils of the ocean.

On the same heights 18 centuries later another emperor—Napoleon I.—encamped an army of more than 180,000 men, designed to invade England. Buonaparte himself, during his visits to the camp, occupied a temporary hut, which was raised within a few yards of the Roman tower. Thence he could survey his flotilla of 2400 transports and flat-bottomed boats, and the shore on either side of the town, both under the cliff and upon the heights, bristling with batteries of cannon and mortars; while in the distance the vigilant fleets of England hovered incessantly. In one instance (1801) Nelson approached near enough to throw shot and shells into the town and sink 2 of the floating batteries. "Boulogne," he writes, "was certainly not a pleasant place that morning; but it is not my wish to injure the poor inhabitants, and the town is spared as much as the service will admit." It is stated, however, that most of the shells fell short, and that in excavating the new harbour many tons of them were dug out. He afterwards made an unsuccessful attempt with the boats of his squadron to cut out the flotilla in the teeth of the batteries, and burn it. Another attempt, in 1804, to burn the flotilla with fireships, made by Lord Keith, was attended with no more successful result.

The flotilla of Boulogne formed only part of the deeply laid scheme of Napoleon for the destruction of England. His design was to collect together the combined squadrons of

France, Spain, and Holland, which for years he had been preparing in the harbours of Antwerp, Brest, Cadiz, and the Mediterranean, and with a fleet of 70 ships of the line to sweep the Channel of the British. Under cover of this vast armament, he intended to have crossed over with the army of Boulogne, expecting to reach London in 5 days. The whole of these projects and combinations, however, were scattered to the winds; the English fleet, under Sir Robert Calder, preventing the junction of those of the enemy, which Nelson finally annihilated at Trafalgar.

A conspicuous memorial of this unaccomplished invasion stands near the rly., at about a mile from the town, in the *Colonne de la Grande Armée*. It was begun by the grand army, as a monument to Napoleon I. The first stone was laid by Marshal Soult, 1804; but its construction was discontinued after the departure of the troops. Under Louis XVIII. it was resumed, with the design of commemorating the Restoration of the Bourbons. In consequence, however, of the revolution of July it resumed its original destination; and the carved fleurs-de-lis and royalist inscriptions having been effaced, was dedicated, 1841, as a monument to Napoleon I., and surmounted by a bronze statue of him in his coronation robes by *Bosio*, while bronze bas-reliefs decorate the base. The pillar is of the Doric order, and 166 ft. high, exclusive of the statue, and is constructed of marble from the quarries of Marquise. Winding stairs lead up to the top (small fee to custodian), whence a view may be had of the white cliffs of England. The hills for miles round Boulogne are still crowned with decaying redoubts, constructed on the same occasion; but these are fast disappearing, the Government having sold them on condition of their being levelled.

¾ m. beyond the column a marble monument commemorates the distribution of the Order of the Legion of Honour by Napoleon to his troops, during one of his visits to the camp. Nearer at hand, attached to a small group of houses in the hollow below, 1½ m. from Boulogne, a few hundred paces from the Nap. column (l.), is the humble chapel of *Jésus Flagellé*, resorted to by the fishermen of Boulogne and their families before they go to sea; they have lined its walls with votive pictures, and hung its roof with models of their barks, each to commemorate some rescue from the perils of the deep.

There is a very pretty walk to Wimille through the *Vallée du Denacre*, keeping a little to the E. of the Calais road; and the valley of the Liane is pleasing up to Pont-de-Brique. *Le Portel* (3 m.), a village on the shore, inhabited by fishermen, has much increased of late years, and now numbers 2000 Inhab. The valley of *Marquise* (see above) is well worth a visit. About 4 m. off, on either side of Boulogne, along the coast, will be found huge tracts of sandy hills or dunes, occupying many square miles of land, and in some places encroaching on and destroying farms and fields. Some of these dunes are crossed by the rly. between Boulogne and Etaples.

Railways. N. to Calais (see Rte. 1); E. to St. Omer, and S. to Paris (see below).

Boulogne to Paris.

The *rly.* to Paris at first follows the valley of the Liane, leaving on rt. a small rly. for the transport of materials to the large neighbouring furnaces of *Outreau*.

3 m. *Pont-de-Briques* Junct. Stat.

[Branch *Rly.* E. 40 m. passing 5 m. *Samer* Stat. (*Inn:* H. de l'Ange), Pop. 1957, near which the remains of a Benedictine abbey, founded in the 7th cent. by St. Wulmer, and about 1 m. beyond on rt. is the village of *Tingry*, where a farm (*Bergerie*) was established by the late Emp. Nap. III. for improving the breed of sheep. The line then runs through the pretty woodland scenery near *Wierre-aux-Bois*, and, traversing a range of hills, passes near *Courset* the botanical garden created in 1784 by Baron Dumont de Courset.

6 m. *Desvres* Stat. (*Inn:* H. Framezelle), Pop. 3100, a town of great antiquity, destroyed by the English in

1246, situated on a table-land 460 feet above sea, exports large quantities of glazed tiles, poultry, and eggs. After crossing the *Aa* beyond *Lumbres* and passing on l. before reaching *Wizernes*, the powder works of *Esquerdes*, one of the largest in France, the line reaches,

25 m. *St.-Omer* (Rte. 1).]

The line then strikes across the hills, penetrating them by a tunnel of 200 yards, through the forest of Hardelot, and afterwards traverses a region of dunes, a sandy tract thrown up by the sea, in the middle of which is a new lighthouse to show the E. boundary of the entry to the Canche. The rly. emerges on the wide shallow estuary of the *Canche*, with the 2 tall light-houses of *Etaples*, a decayed port, and then skirts the sands washed by the sea at high tide, crossing a dreary flat to

17 m. *Étaples* Junct. Stat. The town is at some distance on the rt., near the mouth of the Canche; its Pop., 2719, exclusively occupied in fishing. [Branch Rly. *in progress*, E. 38 m. to St. Pol, opening up a coal district. It is completed as far as

7 m. *Montreuil-sur-Mer* Stat. (*Inn*: H. de France et d'Europe), a quiet, airy country town, pleasantly situated on a hill crowned by a citadel, Pop. 3700. The town originated in the monastery founded here in the 7th cent. by St. Saulve, 8th bishop of Amiens. The only remains of it exist in the mutilated porch and W. transept of the parish ch. in the upper town. There is a pastoral staff of the 9th cent. in the vestry. The fortifications were partly constructed by Vauban on older foundations. It is principally known to Englishmen as the spot in which Sterne laid one of the scenes in the 'Sentimental Journey.' About 1 m. from Montreuil, beyond the village of Neuville, is the new *Chartreuse de Notre Dame des Prés*, consecrated 1875, and re-erected by the Brotherhood of St. Bruno in the 14th-cent. style on the site of their old monastery, founded in 1338 and destroyed at the Revolution. It is worth a visit, ladies are not admitted.]

6 m, *Verton* Stat. [Omnibus to (3 m.) the Baths of *Berck-sur-Mer*, where there are 2 hotels (*de Berck* and *de la Plage*), and several villas erected by wealthy Parisians. The municipality of Paris have a large hospital for children here, and the Rothschild family have built a smaller one.] The rly. now follows the coast until it reaches the Somme, traversing a wide desolate expanse of sandy flats and shallows, with a few vessels lying on their sides or riding at anchor.

11 m. *Rue* Stat., a town of 2500 Inhab. The *Chapel* du St. Esprit (M.H.) dates from the 13th cent., with restored belfry. 5 m. W. is *Le Crotoy*, frequented as a bathing-place in summer. It contains a large fishing population.

6 m. *Noyelles* Junct. Stat. [Branch *Rly.* to 4 m. *St. Valery-sur-Somme* at the mouth of the estuary, and reached by a long wooden viaduct. This is supposed by some to have been the port whence the fleet of William the Conqueror set sail to invade England; but the honour is due to the St.-Valery-en-Caux (Rte. 18), in Normandy. It is a characteristic specimen of an old maritime fortress, and two of its 12th-cent. gateways retain *Barbicans* like those at York. On the shore is a ruined tower of the 11th cent., called *Tour de Harold*. The place contains 3700 Inhab., and is partially resorted to as a watering-place. There is a good road from St.-Valery to Eu, Tréport, and Dieppe (Route 18).]

The rly. after leaving Noyelles runs along the N. bank of the Somme close by the ford of Blanquetaque (*Blanche tache*, from the neighbouring white rocks), where Edw. III. crossed the Somme with his army before the battle of *Crecy* 1346. The ford is passable only at low water. The passage was not made without a struggle on the part of the French to prevent it, but the rising of the tide arrested the pursuit of the French forces, and compelled them to ascend the l. bank, while the English pursued their way up the rt., so that Edward's exhausted and harassed troops gained a day's respite, and he was enabled to choose his own ground for the battle.

The Somme is crossed by a turning-

bridge, to allow vessels to pass, before reaching

9 m. **Abbeville** Stat. (*Inns*—none good: H. la Tête de Bœuf, H. de France.) An industrious and flourishing town, and second-class fortress, of 19,385 Inhab., which, from its situation on the river Somme, is accessible for vessels of 150 tons. Those who penetrate into its narrow and filthy streets will find some quaint specimens of ancient domestic architecture, timber houses, &c., but the chief object of interest is

The dilapidated *Ch. of St. Wolfram* (M. H.). The W. front, and nave of 5 bays, 101 ft. high, are a portion only of a magnificent design, never carried out, commenced in the reign of Louis XII., under Cardinal George d'Amboise (1488), continued in the first years of the next cent. The façade is a splendid example of the Flamboyant style, consisting of three gorgeous portals, surmounted by a pediment, and flanked by two towers; the whole covered with the richest flowing tracery, or panelling; the niches being filled with statues. The central door is elaborately carved. The remainder of the church is a mean continuation of the first plan. It is in a ruinous state. This church was begun at the W. end, the rule being to begin at the choir.

The prison is a fragment of the old *Castle* of the Counts of Ponthieu. The Maison Selincourt (Pl. St. Pierre) is a good specimen of old domestic architecture. The ramparts form a shady promenade. The *Musée*, in the Rue St. Gilles, amongst many objects of interest, contains some Gallo-Roman antiquities and collections of geology, including a large series of wrought-flint hatchets found in the vale of the Somme, in the gravel of the Drift. The *Bibliothèque*, in the H. de Ville, possesses a valuable MS. of the Gospels in gold letters, given by Charlemagne to the monastery of St. Riquier.

Abbeville has some large manufactories of woollens, called here *des rames*, from the poles used in drying them; of carpets once celebrated; of linens; it carries on a considerable coasting trade.

[About 6 m. E. of Abbeville is the *Abbey Ch. of St. Riquier* (M. H.) (there is a public conveyance twice a day to Auxi-le-Château, which passes through St. Riquier), a very splendid and interesting Gothic edifice of the beginning of 16th cent., well preserved, having a beautiful Flamboyant W. front, in the centre of which rises an elegant tower; while beneath it opens the main portal, having statues above and in its sides. "The details of the front are exquisite, well arranged, and well executed." The interior is also very fine; the nave Flamboyant, the choir apparently earlier. On the walls of the treasury are ancient frescoes; one in the style of the "Dance of Death." Cardinal de Richelieu was abbot of St. Riquier; in his time Abbeville was a parish attached to the abbey.]

[From Abbeville, *Crécy* (12 m.) may be visited as follows:—go by the road to St. Omer through the forest of Crécy by Forêt l'Abbaye and *Canchy*, which will give you a good view of Abbeville as you leave it, and of the village of *Crécy en Ponthieu* as you approach it. At Crécy (where there is a small *Inn*, H. du Canon d'Or), N. of village, see the windmill (M. H.), where the English king remained during the battle; tower of Edward III.; the Vallée des Clercs; and the stone cross of the King of Bohemia. These two last may be seen en route by taking on your return the road to Hesdin, in which case you may also see on your way one or two chapels said to have been erected on the graves of the French who fell in the flight. Calculate on 2 hrs. going, 1 hr. there, and, if by Hesdin, 2½ for returning. The wood seen on the l., at a little distance from the road, is a part of the forest of *Crécy;* obscure in itself, but renowned for a victory gained in its precincts, Aug. 26th, 1346, by Edward III. and his 25,000 to 30,000 men over the French army of Philip of Valois 100,000 strong, commanded by the Count d'Alençon, which still, after the lapse of ages, remains one of the most brilliant in English annals. Here, upon that memorable day, to the winning of which the cannon, used, accord-

ing to some, for the first time, contributed less than the clothyard shafts of the English yeomen, there fell, on the side of the French, the Kings of Bohemia and Majorca, the Duke of Lorraine, the Count d'Alençon (the king's brother), with 1200 knights, 1500 gentlemen, 5000 men at arms, and 30,000 infantry. Here it was that the Black Prince gained his spurs, and the feathers which our Princes of Wales bear to this day.]

From Abbeville to Amiens the line is carried up the valley of the Somme along its l. bank, on which are extensive excavations for peat.

5 m. *Pont-Rémy* Stat. The village is on the rt. bank of the Somme, and has a large canvas and sailcloth manufactory. [6½ m. off is *Ailly le Haut Clocher*, so called from the lofty steeple of its fine *Ch.*, in a style resembling Early English Gothic.]

5 m. *Longpré* Junct. Stat. [Branch Rly. S.W. to Longroy-Gamache on the line from Paris to *Eu* and *Tréport* (see Rte. 4) — N.E. to Doullens for Arras, St. Pol, and Bethune.]

The rly. here crosses the Somme by a bridge, destroyed by the Germans Dec. 2, 1870, to prevent Gen. Faidherbe throwing the Armée du Nord into Amiens.

13 m. *Picquigny* Stat. The ruined *castle*, close to the Church of St. Martin, with its terraces, mentioned in Mad. de Sévigné's 'Letters,' was built at the end of the 15th cent. This place gives its name to a Treaty, signed 1475, between Edward IV. and Louis XI., who met on the bridge (blown up 1814 to arrest the march of the Prussians); but so distrustful of each other, that a barrier of stout palisades and wooden bars, "such as the cages of lions are made of," says De Comines, was raised to divide them, leaving space between the bars only wide enough to allow them to shake hands.

2 m. from Picquigny is the interesting Roman camp (M. H.) of Tiraucourt.

Before reaching Amiens the railway passes through some fine meadows, in which is situated the Amiens *racecourse*, one of the best in France.

9. m. **Amiens** Junct. Stat. (*Buffet*, trains usually stop 10 to 20 minutes.)

Hotel *Omnibus* from Rly. *Cabs*, the course, 1 fr., the hour 1½ fr.

Inns: H. du Rhin; H. de France et d'Angleterre, improved and reasonable; H. du Commerce; H. de l'Univers, 2nd class, but clean and moderate.

Post-office, Rue Duméril. *Telegraph office* at the Stat.

This manufacturing town of 63,800 Inhab., formerly capital of Picardy, and now of the dépt. de la Somme, is situated on that river, which passes through the town split into 11 branches, and renders essential service in turning the water-wheels of many of the numerous manufactories whose tall chimneys are seen rising above the other buildings, and are clustered around the outskirts. The weaving of cotton velvets, chiefly for the Spanish market and for covering furniture, of canvas, the spinning of cotton and woollen yarns, of satin for ladies' shoes, are the principal branches of industry. Amiens is the cradle of the cotton manufacture of France, which dates as far back as 1773.

The *objects of interest* for the passing traveller will be—leaving the rly. stat. —the *Cathedral*, passing by the Rue de Noyon and the Place St. Denis; the Ch. of St. Germain; the *Promenade de la Hotoie:* returning by the Boulevards to the Place Longueville, the *Bibliothèque communale*, *Musée national*, and Préfecture, to the rly. stat. Longer excursions may be made to the Citadelle, the Hortillonnages, and St.-Acheul.

**The *Cathedral* of *Notre Dame* (M. H.) is one of the noblest Gothic edifices in Europe. It was begun 1220, only two years later than that of Salisbury, though in a much more mature style. It was designed and commenced by the architect Robert de Luzarches, though it is probable he completed no more than the lower parts of the nave and transepts; it was continued, at intervals, through the 13th cent., by Thos. and Regnault de Cormont, but the upper parts were not completed until the 14th cent., when

the chapels were added to the nave also. The central spire dates from the 16th cent. (1529) only, but replaced one of wood, raised in 1240, which was destroyed by lightning. It is 422 ft. high, 22 ft. higher than Salisbury; but its height fails to impress the beholder, owing to the loftiness of the roof from which it springs. Three vast and deeply recessed portals lead into the nave, the arches supported by a long array of statues in niches instead of pillars,



while rows of statuettes supply the place of mouldings, so that the whole forms one mass of sculpture; an arrangement of constant occurrence in French Gothic, though rare in English. The sculpture of these porches merits attention; over the centre door or *Porche du Beau Dieu d'Amiens*, from the fine statue of Christ it contains; the bas-relief represents the Last Judgment; the statues are those of the 12 Apostles. Over the right-

hand porch are the Death and Assumption of the Virgin; over that on the l. is the legend of St. Firmin, the patron of the city. Above the portals runs a line of colossal statues of French kings, behind which is a noble wheel-window; and the whole is flanked by two fine towers of unequal height, the upper parts of which are of the 14th cent., and both higher than the W. towers of York.

"The interior is one of the most magnificent spectacles that architectural skill can ever have produced. The mind is filled and elevated by its enormous height (140 ft.), its lofty and many-coloured clerestory, its grand proportions, its noble simplicity. The proportion of height to breadth is almost double that to which we are accustomed in English cathedrals; the lofty, solid piers, which bear up this height, are far more massive in their plan than the light and graceful clusters of our English churches, each of them being a cylinder with 4 engaged columns. The polygonal E. apse, and the arrangement which puts the walls at the outside edge of the buttresses, and thus forms interior chapels all round, in addition to the aisles, gives a vast multiplicity of perspective below, which fills out the idea produced by the gigantic height of the centre. Such terms will not be considered extravagant when it is recollected that the vault is half as high again as the roof of Westminster Abbey."—*Whewell.*

The entire length is 469 ft., the height of the nave 141 ft., the space covered by the entire building being 8000 square mètres, larger than that of any other cathedral in France, only surpassed by St. Peter's at Rome and the cathedral of Cologne. ("This excessive praise demands a little qualification. Taking the width between the piers as 1, the height to the vault is $3\frac{1}{2}$,—an exaggeration suggesting an unpleasant feeling of disproportion, and even of weakness; the piers are a little stilted, the capitals small and insignificant, and the vaults raised so much above the eyes as to lose in part their importance."—*D. T.*) The triforium in the choir is glazed, which gives great lightness to the interior. Just within the central porch are 2 fine tombs with bronze effigies of bishops; that on the l. is to Evrard de Fouilley, who laid the first stone of the church; that on the rt. Geoffroy d'Eu, "learned," as his epitaph tells us, "in medicine as well as theology." The splendid pulpit, in the nave, the work of an artist of Amiens, Dupuis, is supported by statues of Faith, Hope, and Charity. It dates from the last cent., when it was executed at an expense of 36,000 livres.

Placed at the crossing of the transept, the spectator may admire the 3 magnificent rose-windows, all of elaborate tracery and varied patterns, filled with rich stained glass, each nearly 100 ft. in circumference, which form a great ornament to this church, and surpass everything of the sort which England can show. The *font* in the N. transept is an oblong trough of stone, of the 11th cent., the supports being of the 13th cent.

Round the wall which separates the choir from its aisles runs a low stone screen, enclosing a series of sculptures, in high relief, representing on the S. side the legends of St. Firmin and St. Sauve, and on the N. the acts and death of John the Baptist. They date from the end of the 15th cent.

The head of St. John the Baptist, brought from Constantinople at the time of the Crusades, has always been considered, and still remains, the most valuable relic possessed by this church. It is deposited in the side chapel dedicated to St. John. Several other heads of St. John existed before the Revolution in other churches of France, and one, indeed, in the neighbouring abbey of St. Acheul; but this, it was maintained, was the genuine one. Since the Revolution, the skull has been reduced to the frontal bone and upper jaw.

The *choir*, terminating in a semicircular E. end, the elegantly groined roof resting on compressed lancet-pointed arches, yields in beauty to no part of the church. The apse chapels resemble the St^e^ Chapelle, Paris, erected at the same time. The choir is especially distinguished for the elaborately carved woodwork of its 110 stalls: in variety of invention and delicacy of ex-

ecution there is nothing finer of the kind in Europe. The intricate details of the tabernacles and lace-like parapets, the bold drawing, and effective though coarse expression in the bas-reliefs, representing subjects from Holy Writ, the Life of the Virgin, &c., and the close imitation of nature in the twining tendrils and playful foliage of the vine and other plants, deserve minute attention. The carvers were Arnoult Boullin, Alex. Huet, and Jean Turpin, of Amiens: the work was finished in 1528. There are numerous sepulchral monuments in different parts of the church, which is now in progress of being restored, under the able superintendence of M. Viollet le Duc.

To appreciate the vast proportions and examine the details of this cathedral, the visitor ought to ascend to the triforium gallery, where he may also see embedded in the floor the strong chain bound round the 4 piers at the crossing to check their settlement, owing to the pressure of the central tower. Thence he may mount the tower and enjoy the view over the city, the Hotoie Promenade, and the valley of the Somme, remarking in his ascent the turret with the stone table, where Henri IV. posted himself to watch the retreat of the Spaniards in 1597. The roof is a wonderful piece of carpentry, 46 ft. high; a forest of oak and chesnut must be contained in it, and in the enormous substructure of the spire.

Within the cathedral of Amiens Edward III. did homage for Guienne to Philippe of Valois in 1329; here, in 1385, Isabeau of Bavaria was married to the idiotic king Charles VI.; and here the treaty of peace between our Edward VI. and Henri III. of France was signed in 1550.

St. Germain, in a back street, S.W. of the cathedral, has been repaired, and is a fine specimen of a town church of the 15th cent., late Dec. verging into Flamboyant, surmounted by a tower and spire at N.W. angle. *Obs.* the W. door, marvellously enriched, canopied, and cusped, the graceful interior, and the vaulting perfect in construction. This ch. is a perfect study for an architect, and well worthy of investigation. It contains good stained glass, both old and new.—*T.*

The other churches worth visiting at Amiens will be *St. Remy* and *St. Leu*, both of the 15th cent., but much restored.

In the Salle du Congrès of the *Hôtel de Ville*, a building of 1600, the treaty of "the Peace of Amiens" was signed, 1802, by Joseph Buonaparte for France, Lord Cornwallis for England, Chevalier Azara for Spain, and M. Schimmelpenninck for Holland. The hall is hung with pictures of the modern French school. The Beffroi, opposite the H. de Ville, now a prison; its base dates from the 14th cent.

Of the old castle nothing remains but the crypt, where St. Firmin is said to have suffered martyrdom A.D. 301. No. 63 Rue des Vergeaux is a Renaissance house, in which Ducange was born.

The *Museum* (*Musée National*), in the Rue des Rabuissons (open 10 to 4, 1 fr.), has been erected by the Société des Antiquaires de la Picardie, from the proceeds of several lotteries, and a grant from the Government. It is a very handsome edifice, in the Renaissance style, on the site of the ancient arsenal, covering with its gardens a considerable area. In the vestibule are paintings and busts relative to the history and celebrities of Picardy; opening out of which, on l., a collection of mediæval antiquities, and on the rt. a hall, called the *Chapelle*, a gallery of religious monuments from desecrated churches. In the l. wing is the *Salle Lagrence*, containing Egyptian and Greek antiquities, presented by a public-spirited gentleman of that name, and other halls not yet arranged. A very handsome stair leads to the upper floor, where the *Salle du Dome* has paintings by Barrais emblematical of Picardy and its great men. In the wings is the collection of paintings (*Galerie Nieuwerkerke*); and beyond, rooms dedicated to Celtic antiquities, amongst which the worked-flint implements from the gravel-beds of the valley of the Somme deserve particular notice; the Gallo-

Roman pottery and mediæval wood-carvings, the latter in the *Salle des Moines*, from an old house in Amiens, are remarkable. *Obs.* in the garden behind, a mortar cast at Amiens in 1477 by Louis XI.

The *Public Library* (*Bibliothèque communale*), on the same side as the Musée, contains 50,000 vols. and some curious MSS., amongst others a Bull on papyrus of Pope Benedict III. (A.D. 857), relative to the Abbaye of Corbie.

A line of Boulevards surrounds the town, occupying the site of the ancient ramparts, and, being planted with trees, forms an agreeable promenade. They are separated into two nearly equal portions by the Place Longueville, on the site of one of the bastions, in the centre of which is the handsome fountain l'Eau Herbet, erected by a citizen at an expense of 20,000 fr. W. of the city is the fine *Promenade de la Hotoie*, well laid out and watered, covering a space of 52 acres. The *Citadel*, the only remaining portion of the old fortifications, built on the N. side of the Somme by Henri IV., has been strengthened by modern works. The Spaniards, in 1597, gained the city, which had claimed the privilege of exemption from a military garrison, through a stratagem of Hernando Tello de Porto Carrero, Spanish governor of Doullens, who, disguising himself and a band of companions as peasants, entered the town at early dawn, along with the market folk, driving a waggon laden with fruit, which he halted under the gateway. In passing the gate it was contrived that a sack of walnuts should burst; and while the unsuspecting guards were occupied on all fours scrambling for its scattered contents, the Spaniards fell on them and put them to the sword. In vain the portcullis was hastily lowered: the waggon had been drawn up so as to catch it as it fell, leaving a passage by which a party of armed Spaniards, in ambush outside, gained easy admittance. Henri IV., not yet firmly fixed in his throne, felt the loss of Amiens as a severe blow, and hastened to recover it. He was aided in the siege and capture of the town, 1598, by a body of 4000 Englishmen, under Sir Arthur Savage, furnished by Queen Elizabeth. The Germans under Manteuffel drove the French Armée du Nord under Faidherbe out of Amiens on the 27th Nov. 1870, and on the 29th the citadel capitulated, thereby giving the Germans complete possession of the town. In the previous month Gambetta had descended here in the balloon in which he had escaped from Paris.

Amiens was the *Samarobriva* of the Romans; and the capital of the *Ambiani*, the Gallic inhabitants of the district (whence the name Amiens), are mentioned by Cæsar. Here Meroveus was proclaimed king by being raised on the shields of his victorious soldiers.

The following eminent persons were born in the town or its vicinity:—*Peter the Hermit*, preacher of the first crusade, to whom there is a bronze *statue* in the Place St. Michel by *Caudron;* Ducange, author of the 'Glossarium ad Scriptores mediæ et infimæ Latinitatis;' a *statue* of him (Du Fresne, Seigneur du Cange) has been set up in the Place St. Denis, near the Stat.; Gresset the poet, author of 'Vertvert;' Delambre the astronomer; Dumeril the naturalist; and Gabrielle d'Estrées, the favourite of Henri IV.

The *Hortillonnages*, or extensive market-gardens, in the N.E. suburb, and near the banks of the Somme, will interest the horticulturist. They are penetrated in every direction by small canals, and can only be visited in a boat.

The *Abbey of St. Acheul*, 1½ m. S.E. (where St. Firmin established the episcopal see of Amiens in the 4th cent.), on the outskirts of the town, was converted into a Jesuits' college under the Restoration. The crypt under the church contains some Gallo-Roman sarcophagi with bas-reliefs. Farther on is the large nunnery *des Dames de Lowencourt*. At St. Acheul, 90 ft. above the Somme, and at other places in its valley, wrought flints have been discovered at a considerable depth in deposits of gravel along with bones of extinct animals. The age of these deposits is not proved. The necropolis of the ancient Samarobriva was probably here-

abouts. 1½ m. N.W. of Amiens is the extramural cemetery of La Madeleine, worth visiting.

Amiens is celebrated among gourmands for its *pâtés de canard*.

Railways.—N.W. to *Boulogne* and *Calais* (see above); S. to *Paris*, by *Creil* (see below); by *Pontoise* (see Rte. 3A), by *Beauvais* (see Rte. 5A); N.E. to *Arras* (see Rte. 1A), for Lille, Brussels, &c.; E. to *Tergnier* (see below), for Laon, Reims, &c.; S.W. to *Rouen* (see Rte. 5), for Dieppe, Caen, &c.

The line to Paris continues to

3 m. *Longueau* Junct. Stat. (*Buffet*). [Branch Rly. E. 50 m. to *Tergnier* (Rte. 3B)].

After quitting Longueau large peat-diggings are seen. The line begins to ascend to attain the high *chalk* table-land of Picardy.

3 m. *Boves* Stat. Ruins of a *Castle* frequented by Henri IV. and la Belle Gabrielle (d'Estrées) during the siege of Amiens.

6 m. *Ailly-sur-Noye* Stat., 657 ft., *Ch.* (M. H.) of 12th and 13th cents., containing the 15th-cent. tomb of a Lord of Ailly.

10 m. *Breteuil* Stat. Branch line to the town of *Breteuil*, 4 m. to the W., of 3000 Inhab., contains a *Ch.* partly of the 12th cent. [4 m. N. is the village of *Folleville*, with the ruins of a *castle* of the 15th cent. taken by the English in 1439, and a *Ch.* (M. H.) containing fine stained glass, and a remarkable *tomb* of Raoul de Lannoy and his wife.]

Beyond Breteuil the country becomes more interesting, and the views picturesque. The line reaches the summit-level at

9 m. *St.-Just* Junct. Stat. [Branch Rly. N.E. to Chaulnes and Peronne for Cambrai, and S.W. to Rochy-Condé for Beauvais.]

19 m. *Clermont de l'Oise* Stat. (*Inn:* H. des deux Epées, H. du Mouton Blanc), a prettily situated town (Pop. 5743) on the slopes of a hill, surmounted by the *Castle*, which is now a Penitentiary for women, the only old portion existing being the donjon, probably of the 11th cent. The number of female prisoners exceeds 1000. It was, however, an important fortress from the 10th to the 16th cent.; taken by the English 1359 and 1434, and by Henri IV. from the troops of the League 1595. The elder Condé, disgusted with the Court, retired hither in 1615, and fortified himself against attacks. The *H. de Ville* dates from 1294; the *Ch. of St. Samson* (M. H.) is of the 14th cent.; fine glass.

From the promenade *du Chatellier*, which surrounds its walls, jutting out over the valley, a beautiful view of its winding stream is obtained. Cassini de Thury, the astronomer and geographer, was a native of Clermont.

5 m. *Liancourt* Stat. A pretty town, which gives a ducal title to the elder branch of the family of La Rochefoucauld. A statue to the Duke, the well-known philanthropist, has been erected in the principal square. The chief industry in this flourishing little town of 4000 Inhab. is shoemaking, one manufactory employing 1200 hands. The 16th-cent. *Ch.* conains a remarkable tomb by Coustou. Near this place are seen the first vines.

4 m. **Creil** Junct. Stat. (*Buffet*). (*Inns:* H. de la Couronne; H. de l'Epée.) A town of 4539 Inhab., on the rt. bank of the Oise. On an island in the river are remains of the old *Castle* in which Charles VI. was shut up during his madness; rebuilt 15th-16th cent., and destroyed since the Revolution; and near it a small desecrated *Ch.*, *St. Evremont*, a pretty building of 12th cent., in ruins. There is a parish *Ch.*, peculiar in its ground-plan, and singular in having within it a large open chimney supported by corbels. There is a massive bridge, also a large earthenware manufactory.

Creil stands at the junction of 5 lines of railway: 1. to Paris direct by Chantilly (see below); 2. to Paris by Pontoise (10½ m. longer) (see Rte. 3A); 3. to Beauvais (Rte. 4); 4. to Cologne by Compiègne (Rte. 183), Noyon, St.-Quentin, and Erquelines; 5. to Calais, &c., and W. Belgium by Amiens.

The river Oise is crossed on a bridge of 3 arches, and the rly. traverses the stone-quarries of *St. Maximin*, which for ages have furnished building-stone for Paris. Some of the old galleries are

bridged over by the line, which is carried in a deep and long cutting, out of which was obtained free-stone for the construction of the *Viaduct of Chantilly*, traversing the valley of La Nonnette, a handsome structure of 36 arches, 66 ft. high in the centre, where they rest on piles. To the l. are seen the great manufactories of *Montataire*. The *Ch.* (M. H.) here is of the 12th and 13th cents. The 15th-cent. château has been restored.

6 m. **Chantilly** Junct. Stat. (*Inns:* H. du Grand Cerf, best; H. du Cygne (and café); H. de la Pelouse, tolerable; H. d'Angleterre), a town of 3322 Inhab. The splendid *Château*, built by the grandson of the Grand Condé, in the reign of Louis XV., was levelled by the mob at the first Revolution. The *Stables* remain—a splendid pile, capable of lodging 180 horses, but unfinished, at the extremity of the Grande Rue, rt. The Great Condé here spent his latter years, after retiring from military life, in the society of Racine, Boileau, Bossuet, and the other literary men of his age.

Condé took great pride in this beautiful retreat, and pleasure in embellishing it; and when Louis XIV., who had a claim on it, indicated a desire to obtain possession, he said, "Vous êtes le maître: mais j'ai une grâce à demander à V. M., c'est de me laisser à Chantilly comme votre concierge;" and the king had the good taste not to insist. Condé's affairs were never in a more desperate condition than at the moment when he was honoured by a visit from his cousin and sovereign, 1671; nevertheless, nothing could exceed the magnificence of the entertainment, rendered memorable by the suicide of Vatel the cook, who ran himself through with his sword in despair because the fish did not arrive in time for dinner.*

Chantilly, one of the most beautiful spots in the vicinity of Paris, abounds in interest and in souvenirs of its most distinguished owner. A noble author,† who visited it in 1841, has touchingly described its vast natural forest, its limpid and purling streams, its green arbele poplars, which have taken root in the ruins of the Grand Château, and now quite overshadow them, its green turf drives, and its hedges of hawthorn. *Le Petit Château*, built by the Montmorencys, is one of the most charming monuments of the style of the Renaissance in France. It is surrounded by water, and consequently the lower story is scarce habitable. The state rooms and gallery are adorned with the Battles of the Grand Condé, painted by Van der Meulen.

The *Chapel* contains a rich altar-screen in the style of the Renaissance, brought from Ecouen: a series of fine painted glass windows by B. Palissy, representing the story of Psyche, after Raphael's designs, is also now at Twickenham. After the death of the Duc de Bourbon in 1850, the last of the line of Condé, Chantilly became the property of the Duc d'Aumale, his godson, and son of King Louis Philippe. The estate was sold December, 1853, in consequence of Napoleon III.'s confiscation decree regarding the property of the Orleans family, to the English bankers Coutts and Co., for 11 million francs, but is now again occupied by the Duc d'Aumale. An *Hospital*, built and endowed by the last Prince de Condé, remains a monument of his munificence to the town.

The *Jardin Anglais* was laid out before the Revolution; the French garden is in bad taste—it has a noble *Terrace*.

The park and grounds are very beautiful, and are readily shown to strangers. The forest adjoining them has an extent of 6700 acres. There is some very fine turf here. Chantilly is now the Newmarket and the Goodwood of France; and the principal horse-races of France take place here in May, September, and October. Several hundred English grooms and jockeys are maintained here. A *Church* has been built for the *English*.

The body of the aged Admiral Coligny, the noblest victim of the massacre of St. Bartholomew, after having been hung up by the heels on the gibbet of Montfaucon, was secretly

* See Mad. de Sévigné's 'Letters.'

† Lord Mahon: 'Life of Condé.'

brought hither by Montmorency, and buried in the parish *Ch.* without the head, which was conveyed to Cath. de Medicis. The body was transferred in 1786, to Maupertuis. Hither have been removed from the Ch. of St. Paul at Paris, the *hearts* of the princes of Condé, with a touching inscription from the pen of the Duc d'Aumale, alluding to his unmerited exile from France.

Chantilly gives its name to a kind of silk lace (*blonde*), little of which, however, is made in the town itself, but in the 20 or 30 neighbouring communes, the artificers being women and children. There are several large establishments; but they only give out the patterns and materials, the work being executed at the homes of the lacemakers out of the town.

[*Branch Rly.* to Crèpy-en-Valois, by *Senlis* (see Rte. 183).]

The rly. to Paris is carried through the forest, which covers an area of 5852 acres.

A fine view is seen in crossing the Viaduct (1100 ft. long, 130 high) of 15 arches over the Thève valley. Just below appear the Ponds, or *Étangs de Comelle*: on the dam at the margin is a modern Gothic Castle, called *Château de la Loge de Viarmes*, on the site of one said to have been built by Queen Blanche of Castille, mother of St. Louis. Three avenues traverse the ponds; and here grand stag-hunts were held by the royal princes.

Not far from Viarmes is the ruined Cistercian Abbey of Royaumont, founded by St. Louis, 1230, who often retired hither from the world, tending the sick and eating with the monks. A wall and turret of the church, with bits of the refectory and cloister, alone remain, and are now converted into a cotton-mill. The valley of the Oise in this vicinity is very rich.

7 m. *Luzarches-Survilliers* Stat. The town of *Luzarches*, 1470 Inhab., lies on rt., and has an interesting *Church* of the end of the 12th or beginning of the 13th cent.: its portal is ornamented with curious sculptures of martyred saints; and a fragment of a square donjon and a chapel, remains of a castle of the French kings, exist on the top of the hill.

1½ m. from the stat. is *Survilliers*; its château formerly belonged to King Joseph Bonaparte, from which he took his title of Comte de Survilliers, preserved during his long exile; that of *Champlatreux*, the seat for centuries of the great judicial family of Molé, is now that of the Duc d'Ayen, their descendant in the female line, the male being extinct.

4 m. *Louvres* Stat. The town, of 994 Inhab., is nearly 1 m. to the rt., and has an interesting Flamboyant *Church*, with well-preserved late Romanesque doorway, and S.W. detached tower of later date.

3 m. *Villiers le Bel* Stat., 1½ m. from the town, on a hill: Pop. 2107.

[*Omnibus* to, 2½ m. S., *Gonesse*, a town of 2,600 Inhab., with a *Ch.* (M. H.) of the 12th and 13th cents., with interesting Transitional choir, circular-aisled apse and tower, and nave and W. front of the Lancet period. *Omnibus* also to, 4 m. W.,

Ecouen, a town of 2100 Inhab. celebrated for its *Château* (M. H.), the seat of the Montmorencys, from whom it passed by inheritance to the Condés. It was erected in the 16th cent. by Jean Bullant; confiscated during the first Revolution, it was converted into a barrack; in 1807 it became a house of education for the daughters of members of the Legion of Honour, under the direction of Madame Campan, which being removed during the Bourbon rule to St.-Denis, Ecouen devolved to the Condés: it is now a school for the daughters of military men. The elegant chapel is a *chef-d'œuvre* in the style of the Renaissance.]

5 m. **St.-Denis** Junct. Stat. about 1 m. W. of the town: omnibuses to the square of the Abbey meet all the trains. Several *Inns* and restaurants; none very good.

This town, of 32,000 Inhab., has become the seat of numerous manufactures, but its only interest for the traveller will be its celebrated Abbey

Church, for a fuller description of which see *Handbook of Paris.*

St. Denis is the patron saint of France, and the Abbey is one of the most important and wealthy religious foundations in France: its abbots were powerful lords; Turpin was chancellor to Charlemagne, and Suger prime minister to St. Louis.

The ***Abbey Ch.* (M. H.) has been the burial-place of the kings of France from the time of Dagobert (638), and is a building of great interest, in spite of the dilapidations of revolutionary violence, which the restorations carried on under Napoleon, the Bourbons, Louis-Philippe, and the late Emperor, have not entirely repaired. Independently of its historic interest, the works lately executed have made it one of the most magnificent and gorgeous Gothic edifices in the world. The W. front was flanked by 2 towers, that on the S. rebuilt since 1847. The other, together with its very fine spire of the 13th cent., has been taken down to prevent its fall. The façade is in the Romanesque style, having been raised by Abbot Suger, who entirely rebuilt the Ch. of Dagobert 1137-41. Of Suger's work, besides the W. end, little more remains than the lower part of the choir and the E. chapels. The crypt is of 11th cent., and it contains a "Martyrium" of the 9th or 10th.

It was in the porch of St. Denis that Henri IV. abjured the Protestant faith. Over the central portal, which is Semicircular, is a bas-relief of the Last Judgment. A vestibule, crowded with piers to support the towers, leads into the nave, which, with the transepts and upper part of the choir, are of about 1240-45. The ch. is about 92 ft. high and 354 ft. long. The choir and nave are 40 ft. wide, with stone vaults.

In front of the raised choir is the High Altar. On the rt. of it is the monument of Dagobert, a singular Gothic structure, raised to his memory by St. Louis; the effigy is modern; that of his Queen Nanthilda is a fine work of the 13th cent.; so are the bas-reliefs representing the pretended vision of a hermit, who reported that he had seen Dagobert in a boat pursued and scourged by devils, but defended by St. Denis, St. Martin, and St. Maurice.

In the transepts stand 3 splendid monuments, in the style of the Renaissance.

(*a*) *Of Louis XII. and Anne of Brittany, whose recumbent effigies in marble are surrounded in niches by 12 sitting statues of the Apostles, admirable for design, attitude, and execution. The bas-reliefs round the base represent the battle of Agnadel and the entry of Louis into Milan. This monument is the work of Jean Juste of Tours, 1591.

(*b*) *Of Henri II. and Catherine of Medicis his queen, said to have been designed by Philibert Delorme and executed by Germain Pilon. The royal effigies are twice repeated; below recumbent as dead, above kneeling: at the 4 corners are figures of the Cardinal Virtues in bronze.

(*c*) The *cenotaph of Francis I. and Claude his queen, begun 1552, from designs of Germain Pilon, and others. The recumbent effigies are by Philibert Delorme, as well as the elegant arabesques which decorate the canopy. The frieze running round the base of the monument represents, in a series of marble bas-reliefs of good execution, the battles of Cerisolles and of Marignano. The canopy is surmounted by statues of Francis and his queen, with their 3 children.

In other parts of the ch. are placed monumental columns to Henri III., assassinated by Jacques Clement 1589; to Francis II., husband of Mary Queen of Scots, its base surrounded by weeping angels; a pillar in memory of Henri IV.; the effigy of Duguesclin, whose valour and renown procured for him, as Turenne's did in later times, burial in the company of kings, but availed not to save their ashes from sacrilegious dispersion by the republicans; Duguesclin's is remarkable for its diminutive size.

The choir and its side chapels glow with modern decoration in painting and gilding. The windows are mostly filled with modern painted glass, a very

small portion of the old having escaped the fury of the Revolutionists. The chapel of the Virgin alone retains some of that with which Abbot Suger decorated the building in 1140: it is regarded as some of the oldest in France. *Obs.* a Tree of Jesse; also some good tile-mosaics in the Chap. of St. Cucuphas, of Suger's time. A red flag suspended behind the altar supplies the place of the once-venerated *Oriflamme*, the standard of the realm of France, but not used in battle since the time of Charles VII. It was originally the church flag of the Abbey of St. Denis, which was delivered by the abbot to the military guardian of the church whenever he went forth to fight its battles, and was supposed to secure victory to those who bore it. It supplanted St. Martin's cloak, which had previously served as the royal standard of France.

In the aisles, transepts, and chapels opening into it, have been ranged most of the monuments which were formerly in the corridors beneath the choir, the space having been reserved to the vaults of the last Bourbon sovereigns, and of the Imperial family of the late dynasty. In the former lie the supposed remains of Louis XVI. and Marie Antoinette, removed from the cemetery of the Madeleine, of Louis XVIII., &c. Those of the first Napoleon still lie at the Invalides, although preparations have been made to receive them at St. Denis; a door from beneath the high altar leads into these 2 depositories.

This long range of Royal tombs, which since the recent restorations now again decorate the upper ch., have been arranged chronologically by M. Viollet-le-Duc; they are quite empty, in consequence of a decree of the Convention of 1793 ordering the destruction of the tombs of the kings at St. Denis. In the course of three days 51 tombs were opened, rifled, and demolished; and the bodies of kings, queens, and princes, in every stage of decay, cast out in an indiscriminate heap into 2 trenches, hastily dug without the walls of the church, after being subjected to every species of indignity. A soldier with his sabre cut the beard from the nearly perfect corpse of Henri IV. to wear it as a moustache on his own lip; and the valiant Turenne's body, so little injured by time that the likeness to his portrait was still recognised, was stuck into a glass case, and made a show to gratify idle curiosity. The mutilated monuments were conveyed, with relics of saints and church-plate, to Paris, and owe their preservation and restoration to the praiseworthy zeal and care of M. le Noir, founder of the Musée des Petits Augustins. For 12 years after this sacrilege the Abbey Ch. of St. Denis, stripped of its lead to furnish bullets, remained roofless; having first been offered for sale for the value of the building-materials, and next used as a market-house. Napoleon I., however, undertook its restoration, and caused the desecrated sepulchral vaults of the Bourbons to be fitted up as a mausoleum for his own family. His design, frustrated by the Restoration, was partly carried out by the late Napoleon III. The vaults below the high altar contain the confused mass of royal bones, withdrawn by order of Louis XVIII. from the ditch into which they had been cast, together with the burnt remains of Louis XVI. and Marie Antoinette, the coffins of Louis XVIII. and others of his family. In a corner lies the last Condé, father of the Duc d'Enghien, who died at St.-Leu.

Between 1806-47, 290,000*l.* were expended on the restoration of St. Denis. Napoleon's commencement was followed up by the Restoration; but what had then been done was not considered in good taste by Louis Philippe, who, besides repairing and improving, pulled down and replaced much that had been put up by his two predecessors. The late Emp. Napoleon III. intrusted the restoration of the ch. to the care of M. Viollet-le-Duc, and under his management great changes have been made, with the object of bringing back the ch. to the state in which it was in 1707, but the war of 1870-71 put a stop to the restorations, and some damage was done to the ch. during the bombardment of the town

by the Prussians, 21st to 28th January, 1871. There is an extensive view from the summit of the tower, but the ascent is not easy.

E. of the ch. is *La Maison Nationale* occupying the buildings of the ancient abbey, and devoted to the education of 400 daughters of members of the order of la Légion d'Honneur.

On leaving St.-Denis, the Rly. crosses the canal de St.-Denis by an iron bridge, and the Plaine de St.-Denis, before cutting through the line of Fortifications of Paris, passing (rt.) the hill of Montmartre and the Hospital Lariboisière.

Paris *Terminus* (*Buffet*), a grand railway station, *Place Roubaix.*

For description of Paris see *Murray's Handbook of Paris.*

Hotels:—

H. Bristol, Place Vendôme, perhaps the best in Paris, patronised by our Royal family and the leading members of the British and foreign aristocracy; the owners, Messrs. Bachmeyer and Morlock, are most obliging and attentive persons, speaking our language fluently. *H. du Rhin*, in the same square, also good.

Grand H., on the Boulevard des Capucines, and *H. du Louvre* in the Rue de Rivoli—two colossal establishments belonging to a joint-stock company, magnificently furnished, and, though the tariff at both these hotels has been lowered since the late war, expensive as regards apartments, the charge for which depends on the floor upon which they are situated; tables-d'hôte at 6 P.M., the society at which is rather of a mixed character.

H. Westminster, good; charges as at the H. Bristol. *H. Mirabeau*, with table-d'hôte, good. *H. de Hollande.* All three in the Rue de la Paix.

H. Chatham, Rue Neuve St. Augustin, a very comfortable family hotel, situation convenient; good table-d'hôte at 6 fr.

H. Meurice, in the Rue de Rivoli, belonging to an English joint-stock company, much frequented by English and Americans. *H. Brighton*, also in the Rue Rivoli, quiet, clean, and with moderate charges. *H. Windsor* and *H. Wagram* in the same street. The hotels in the Rue de Rivoli have the great advantage of a sunny look-out in winter, the vicinity to the Tuileries gardens, a covered walk in rainy weather under its arcades, &c.

H. Castiglione, de Londres, and *Vendôme*; all in the Rue Castiglione; good.

H. de Lille et d'Albion, de St. James, de France, et de Bath, in the Rue St. Honoré.

H. Bedford, in the Rue de l'Arcade; and *Vouillemont*, in the Rue des Champs Elysées.

H. Byron, Rue Lafitte, comfortable, table-d'hôte 5 fr., incl. wine.

H. Louis le Grand, Rue Louis le Grand, moderate and quiet; *H. Prince Albert*, Rue St. Hyacinthe, unpretending, moderate charges.

The hotels *near the rly. stations* are second-rate. (For a list of the best *see below.*)

In some of the first-class hotels there is no table-d'hôte, which renders them more expensive. Lodgings in hotels, as well as all other charges, have increased considerably in Paris of late years. (For further information on this subject, see *Handbook of Paris.*)

Restaurants — à la carte — on the Boulevard des Italiens. *Maison Dorée, Café Riche, Café Anglais, Café du Helder.* Café Restaurant du *Nouvel Opera*, Boulevard Haussmann, good; in the Palais Royal, *Véfour;—à prix fixe*, in the Palais Royal, *Richard*, and *Aux Mille Colonnes.* A fair dinner may be obtained for 3 fr., and dejeuner 2 fr., at the Dîner *du Commerce*, Passage Panorama, Boulevard des Italiens. (For Restaurants *near the rly. stations, see below.*)

Cabs (Voitures de Place) 2 to 3 pers.; a drive, 1 fr. 50 c.; by the hour, 2 fr.; between 12.30 at night and 6 A.M. (7 P.M. in winter), 2 fr. 25 c. and 2 fr. 50 c.

At *Galignani's Reading Room*, in the Rue de Rivoli, No. 224, the Englishman will find all the best newspapers of different countries; he may supply

himself with books, or subscribe to the circulating library. *Galignani's Messenger* is a capital paper, condensing all the news of the English papers without reference to politics. MM. G. will forward it to any part of the Continent.

RAILWAY STATIONS IN PARIS, AND HOTELS NEAR THEM.

	PARIS to—	
Chemin de Fer du Nord.	Boulogne, Calais, Amiens, Dunkirk, Lille, Douai, Valenciennes, Brussels, E. Belgium, Holland, Cologne, and N. Germany.	Place Roubaix. *Hotels* in neighbourhood: H. *du Nord* and H. *Cailleux*, both opposite the stat. *Restaurants: Barbotte* and *Lequen*, both "à la carte," and facing the departure side of the stat.
,, de l'Ouest (Normandy).	Versailles, rt. bank. St. Cloud. St. Germain. Rouen, Havre, and Dieppe. Caen. Cherbourg.	Rue St. Lazare. *Hotels* in neighbourhood: H. *de Londres et de New York*, Place du Havre, opposite the stat. *Restaurants: du chemin de fer* (*Felix*), under the Arcades, and *de Rome*, Place du Havre.
,, de l'Ouest (Brittany).	Versailles, left bank. Chartres. Rennes. Brest. Lorient. Quimper. Angers. Napoléon Vendée (now La Roche sur Yon). Nantes. Pontivy.	Boulevard Montparnasse. *Hotels* in neighbourhood: H. *de France et de Bretagne* (with *Restaurant*), on the departure side of the stat.
,, de Paris à Lyon et à la Méditerranée.	Dijon, Châlons, Lyons, Grenoble, Marseilles, Toulon. Nice, Nîmes, Montpellier, Clermont, le Puy, &c. Geneva and Turin.	Boulevard Mazas, near la Bastille. *Hotel* in neighbourhood: H. *Jules César*, Avenue Lacuée, at corner of Rue de Lyon. *Restaurant:* the *buffet* at the stat. is the best.
,, de l'Est.	Strasbourg, Metz, Bâle, and Switzerland. Vienna, and S. Germany generally.	Rue et Place de Strasbourg. *Hotels* in neighbourhood: H. *de l'Europe* and H. *de Paris*, both on the Boulevard de Strasbourg, opposite Stat. *Restaurants: Schaeffer*, Rue de Strasbourg, and at the H. *de Paris*.
,, d'Orléans.	Orleans, Tours, Nantes, Bordeaux, Bayonne, Pau, Spain, and the Pyrenees. Bourges. Rochefort. Limoges. Périgueux. Toulouse. Montauban. Auch, Pau, and the Pyrenees.	Quai d'Austerlitz. *Hotels* in neighbournood. None good; the nearest good one is the H. *Jules César* (see above). *Restaurant* at the *buffet* at the stat., on the departure side.
,, de Vincennes.	Vincennes.	Place de la Bastille.
,, Sceaux.	Sceaux.	Barrière d'Enfer.

ROUTE 3A.

CREIL TO PARIS BY PONTOISE—RAIL.

Creil to	Kil.	Miles.
St.-Leu	7	4
Beaumont	21	13
Pontoise	39	24
Ermont	53	33
Enghien	56	34
Paris	68	42

Time, 2 hrs.; *trains*, 6 daily.

Creil is described in Rte. 3.

This line forms a loop, and is 10½ m. longer than by Chantilly, described in Rte 3.

4 m. *St.-Leu-d'Esserent* Stat. The *Abbey Ch.* (M. H.), close to the Stat., is one of the finest in the district. It has, at the W. end, one steeple remaining out of two, with an inclosed porch or narthex, a chamber over the porch, all of circular Trans. work, belonging to a former ch. of 1140. The rest of the ch. is early pointed, of the finest character. The Lady Chapel has 2 storeys, the upper one opening into the triforium. It has 2 towers, in place of transepts, flanking the choir. Portions of cloister and of the abbey buildings, including a gateway, remain. The hill above is pierced with stone-quarries of great extent.

9 m. *Beaumont-sur-Oise* Stat. (*Inn:* H. des Quatre Fils Aymon), a town of 2560 Inhab., surmounted by a ruined tower, part of its old castle. The *Ch.* (M. H.) of the 13th cent. partly reconstructed, and with lofty nave, is a good example of late Transitional.

4 m. *Isle Adam* Stat., from which the baronial family of Villiers derives its title.

2 m. *Valmondois* Junct. Stat. [Branch line direct S. to Ermont.]

2 m. *Auvers* Stat. Fine *Ch.* (M. H.) of the 13th to the 16th cents. Pretty country to

3 m. *St. Ouen l'Aumône* Stat. There is a restored *Ch.* here of the 10th cent., and a picturesque château with gardens, designed by Le Notre.

1 m. **Pontoise** Junct. Stat. (*Buffet*). (*Inns:* H. de Pontoise; H. Grand Cerf; H. des Messageries.) A town of 6500 Inhab., occupies a steep slope above the river Oise, here traversed by a *bridge*, whence its name. It is famous for its fatted calves and flour. The Vionne, which here joins the Oise, turns numerous corn-mills. The *Ch. of St. Maclou* (M. H.) is an interesting edifice presenting various styles, from the 12th to the 15th cents.; there is some painted glass in a chapel near the principal entrance. The *Palais de Justice* is a Gothic building.

Pontoise is a place of some historical interest. St. Louis, attacked by a violent illness, was here warned by a voice from heaven to assume the cross —1244. During the hard winter of 1437, when the ground was covered with snow, the English took the town by surprise, through an ingenious *ruse* of Talbot, who clothed his soldiers in white, under cover of which, in the obscurity of the night, they reached the foot of the walls unobserved by the garrison.

[Rly. N. to Dieppe, viâ Gisors, &c. (see Rte. 11A)].

3 m. *Franconville* Stat. *Omnibus* to

2 m. *St.-Leu-Taverny*, celebrated for its château and park, which, before the first Revolution, belonged to the Duc d'Orléans, and was the favourite residence of Madame de Genlis. In the time of Napoleon I. it was given to Queen Hortense, mother of the late Emperor Napoleon III., and after the Restoration became the property of the Duc de Bourbon, who ended his days here mysteriously, being found hanging to a window-bolt in his bedroom. Not a trace remains of the château of the last of the Condés, and even the grounds are completely altered. It was purchased by the Bande Noire, sold for its materials, and streets built on the site, one appropriately called Rue des Vandales. The Orleans family have erected on the spot an octagonal monument to the family of Condé.

The village ch. was rebuilt, 1853, by Napoleon III., and 4 of his ancestors lie buried in it: Charles of Corsica, father of the first Napoleon, died 1785;

the King of Holland, father of Napoleon III., and two of the latter's brothers. Marshal Ney and his sister are also interred here.

2 m. *Ermont* Junct. Stat. Branch rly. 5 m. by Argenteuil to Asnières (see Rte. 8), and N. to Valmondois (see above).

2 m. **Enghien** Junct. Stat. (*Inn:* H. des Quatre Pavillons; *Restaurant:* Talma). *Enghien-les-Bains* is a very pretty village (Pop. 804) on the borders of a lake, the Étang de Montmorency, with a *Bathing Establishment* supplied with medicinal waters from a sulphureous spring. Not only on this account, but for the beauty of its situation and environs, it is much frequented by the Parisians as a sort of French Richmond. The walks in the *Parc de St. Gratien*, where Princess Mathilde Bonaparte has a château, are pleasant.

[Rly. to, 1¼ m., *Montmorency* (*Inn:* H. Cheval Blanc), a dirty town of 3500 Inhab., 14 m. distant from Paris. Its fine Gothic *Ch.* (M. H.), of the 16th cent., contains some good painted glass.

In the house, 47, Rue de St. Brice, called *l'Ermitage*, about ½ m. off, Rousseau resided 1756-58, and wrote there his 'Nouvelle Héloïse.' It was then the property of Madame d'Épinay, and really a peasant's cottage, fitted up for Rousseau, to prevent his returning to Geneva. It was afterwards occupied by Grétry the composer, who died in it 1813. It still exists, but built into a large and more modern mansion. The arrangement of the garden has not been changed since the time of Rousseau.

The rly. from Enghien passes near Épinay, and is carried past one of the detached forts (la Briche) which surround Paris, and skirts (rt.) the margin of the Seine shortly before reaching

3 m. *St.-Denis* Junct. Stat., and thence to

5 m. **Paris** (see Rte. 3).

ROUTE 3B.

AMIENS TO TERGNIER BY HAM—RAIL.

Distance, 50 m.; *time*, 2¼ hrs.; *trains*, 4 daily.

Amiens is described in Rte. 3.

This Rly. gives direct communication with the S.E. of France, avoiding Paris. After passing through

3 m. *Longueau* Junct. Stat., the line follows for a short distance the northerly line to *Arras* (Rte. 1A), for Calais, Brussels, &c., before turning eastward and proceeding through

20 m. *Chaulnes* Junct. Stat. [Rly. N., by Peronne, to Cambray; S. to Paris].

6 m. *Nesle* Stat. A little beyond this village, Henry V. crossed the Somme by a ford which the French had left unguarded, and 2 days after gained the Battle of Azincour, 1415.

8 m. **Ham** Stat. (*Inn:* H. de France). This little town, of 2728 inhab., picturesquely situated on a canal and the river Somme, and surrounded by marshes, is chiefly remarkable for its *state prison* or **Citadel*, which occupies the ground between the rly. stat. and the canal. This important defensive work, on the site of an earlier castle erected previous to 1226, was built in 1470 by the Comte de St. Pol, afterwards beheaded by Louis XI., and bears over the gate his motto, "Mon Mieux." A great number of political prisoners have been confined here from the time of Joan of Arc downwards, amongst others, Prince Jules de Polignac, Peyronnet, Chatelauze, and Guernon-Ranville, the ministers of Charles X., who signed the ordonnances of July 25, 1830. Louis Napoleon, after the failure of his rash attempt at Boulogne in 1840, remained here for 6 years, when he succeeded, whilst some repairs were going on in the castle, in escaping in the disguise of a labourer, carrying a plank on his shoulder. Whilst he was emperor, the little garden he cultivated was kept carefully trimmed, but is now overgrown with weeds. The rooms he occupied are shown, as also those

in which the Generals Cavaignac, Changarnier, and Lamoricière were confined after the *coup d'état* of Dec. 2, 1851.

During the war of 1870–71 the town was several times taken and retaken by the French and Germans. The central round tower or donjon is 100 ft. high and 100 ft. wide, and the walls are of masonry 36 ft. thick. The view from the top is pretty.

The *Ch. of Notre Dame* dates from 1108, but has been modernised. Its walls are lined with thirty-two bas-reliefs of Old Test. subjects by sculptors of the end of the 17th cent. In the crypt beneath are monuments of Baron Odo IV. and his wife (1214), the founders of the castle.

Between the church and the detached bell-tower of *St. Pierre* is the richly ornamented façade (with date 1701) of what were formerly the conventual buildings connected with the church.

Omnibus daily northward to (12 m.) *St.-Quentin*, and southward through *Guiscard* to (12 m.) *Noyon* (see Rte. 183.)

The line now quits the dépt. de la Somme, and, entering the dépt. de l'Aisne, passes

6 m. *Flavy-le-Martel* Stat., and, approaching the canal de St.-Quentin, joins the line from Paris to Cologne just before reaching

7 m. **Tergnier** Junct. Stat. (*Buffet*).

Rly. N. to *St.-Quentin*, &c. (Rte. 183); E. to *Laon*, &c. (Rte. 187); S. to *Noyon*, &c. (Rte. 183).]

ROUTE 4.

PARIS TO EU AND LE TRÉPORT, BY CREIL, BEAUVAIS, ABANCOURT, AND GAMACHE—RAIL.

Paris to	Kil.	Miles.
Creil	51	31
Beauvais	88	54
Abancourt	133	83
Gamache	173	108
Le Tréport	191	119

Time, 5 to 7 hrs.; *trains*, 2 daily.

This Rly. is now completed, and gives direct communication between the capital and the rising watering-places to which it runs.

For the description of the Rly. as far as

31 m. *Creil* Junct. Stat., see Rte. 3. Here a branch line turns N.W., and traverses a rich agricultural district, offering, however, little interest to the traveller, following part of the distance the valley of the Therain.

5 m. *Cires-lez Mello* Stat. The *Ch.* (M. H.), restored, is of the 12th and 15th cents. The W. door and N. porch contain interesting features. The *Château* is a handsome building of the 18th cent., with a chapel of the 15th cent., and two towers partly of the 12th cent.

7 m. *Heilles-Mouchy* Stat. On the l. is the fine château of *Mouchy-le-Châtel*, well restored, and belonging to the Duke de Mouchy. Near *Mausel*, between Rochy and Beauvais, are traces of 3 Roman highways called the *Chaussées Brunehaut*; the village ch. being in the Pointed style of the 12th cent.

7 m. *Rochy-Condé* Junct. Stat. [Branch Rly. N.E. through *La Rue St. Pierre* to *St. Just*.]

11 m. **Beauvais** Junct. Stat. (*Inns*: H. Cygne; H. d'Angleterre), the chief town of the dépt. de l'Oise, 15,307 Inhab.; supposed to stand near the site of the Gaulish *Bratuspontium* mentioned by Cæsar. The central portion (la Cité) is very ancient, still in part inclosed by its old walls, which on the E. side have given place to airy boulevards planted with trees; many of the houses are of wood. The most conspicuous edifice, and the principal object of interest here is the

**Cathedral* (M.H.). At a distance it appears a heavy and uncouth mass, overtopping the rest of the town with its prominent roof, which is supported by 3 rows of flying buttresses, surmounted by double ranges of pinnacles rising from broad buttress walls. It was commenced 1225, and the design of its founders and architects, excited to emulation by the splendour of Amiens, which had been begun 5 years earlier, seems to have

been to surpass in vastness and magnificence all other Gothic edifices. They miscalculated, however, the resources both of their art and their treasury, and the result was repeated failures; for the progress of the edifice was arrested when it was only half finished, and it remains a mere gigantic choir with the transepts. As it is, however, this choir is the loftiest in the world, the elevation of the roof above the pavement being 153 ft.—13 ft. higher than that of the cathedral of Amiens; but though more extraordinary, it is less pleasing than the latter in general effect. "The extension of its dimensions upward is carried to a degree which strikes the spectator as exaggeration. Amiens is a giant in repose; Beauvais a colossus on tiptoe." — *W.* The choir, "though raised to a loftiness that strikes the beholder with astonishment, displays the space between the tall and slender pillars so entirely filled with glass that the whole range of windows only appears like a single zone of light supported and separated by nothing but narrow mullions situated at wide intervals." To increase the wonder of the building, the architect designed to support it on half the number of piers employed at present; but in spite of the iron braces used to hold the piers in their places, the walls bulged out, and the roof and central tower fell 1284. The only means, then, of maintaining the building was by inserting intermediate piers in the wide spaces left between the original ones, which was done in the end of the same cent. After that the work was stopped for many years by the wars. The transepts, begun 1500, under Bishop Villiers de l'Ile Adam (who, as well as his brother the Grand Master of St. John of Jerusalem, were born at Beauvais), by the architects Jean Waast and Martin Cambiche, and finished 1555, are a fine example of the Flamboyant style.

One compartment of the nave was actually begun when the architects (moved, it is said, by a vain ambition to rival the height of the dome of St. Peter's) abandoned it to raise a tower 455 ft. high, which tumbled down 1573.

In the interior the effect of the admirable painted glass, executed in the best period of the art, is very rich. That in the N. and S. rose-windows is attributed to Nicholas Lepot or Leprince, and that in some of the side chapels to Augrand Leprince, both celebrated as artists in this line in the 16th cent. In the choir are hung 8 of the *tapestries* representing histories of SS. Peter and Paul, after cartoons of Raphael now at Hampton Court, for the manufacture of which Beauvais was celebrated, and which preceded by three years that of the Gobelins. The monument, in the N. aisle of the choir, of Cardinal Forbin Janson, surmounted by his kneeling effigy, is by Nicholas Coustou (1738).

The entrances to the Cathedral are by the transepts: the portal at the extremity of the S. transept is loaded with Flamboyant decorations, though, from the fury of iconoclasts, it has lost the statues which filled the niches. It is surmounted by a noble rose-window, of very rich tracery. The painted glass, probably by Leprince, represents the creation of the Jewish people, with SS. Peter and Paul, the Great Doctors of the Church, &c. The façade of the N. transept has very much the character of English Perpendicular Gothic; its portal, deeply recessed, with feathered mouldings to the arches, retains its original carved doors, which are surmounted by a bas-relief, in the tympanum, of a genealogical tree; the escutcheons suspended from the branches.

In 1876, one of those elaborate *clocks* which mark the triumph of modern horology, and surpasses that of Strasbourg, was placed in the Cathedral in a square tower of wood, carved and enriched with sculptures of the Life of Man and the Last Judgment. On the striking of the hour a cock flaps his wings, and from openings in the sides are seen the condemned in flames of hell. The main dial is 6 ft. in diameter, and there are 24 other dials, —solar, lunar, and sidereals. The

maker is Mons. Verité, and it cost 100,000*l.*

A ruinous building called the *Basse Œuvre*, on the W. of the cathedral, occupying part of the space which the nave, if carried out, would have covered, is one of the most ancient buildings in France (6th or 7th cent.). It has precisely the form of a Roman basilica, a nave with square piers and plain round arches, side-aisles, and clerestory with plain round-headed windows, covered with flat ceiling. The apse was destroyed not long ago.

St. Étienne. The nave (12th cent.) exhibits the transition from Romanesque to Gothic; it is very plain, with round pier-arches, and round-headed clerestory windows. The choir, much loftier, with double aisles is of 15th cent. The W. front resembles an early English front. The painted glass is good. In one of the apse chapels is a fine Tree of Jesse, 16th cent. The N. front of the N. transept, and the N. doorway of the N. aisle exhibit a good deal of rich carved work. In the N. transept is a wheel-of-fortune rose-window, with figures ascending and descending. The *Bishop's Palace*, now the *Palais de Justice*, rebuilt in the 15th cent., has externally the aspect of a castle surrounded by walls, and its entrance flanked by 2 large round towers. The National *manufactory of carpets* and *tapestry* is famous.

Cæsar thus mentions the Bellovaci, or ancient inhabitants of the district round Beauvais: "Plurimum inter Belgas Bellovacos et virtute et auctoritate, et hominum numero valere."

The most remarkable event in the annals of Beauvais is its *Siege* by Charles the Bold in 1472, when, being destitute of garrison, it might have fallen by a *coup de main*, had not its citizens boldly closed their gates in the face of an army of 80,000 Burgundians, and maintained an obstinate resistance until succour arrived from Paris. The peculiar feature in this defence was the part which the wives and daughters of the townsfolk took in it, guarding the walls, and sharing in all the perils of the men. The chief heroine, Jeanne Hachette, appeared upon the breach at the moment of the fiercest assaults, seized a Burgundian standard which a soldier was endeavouring to plant on the walls, and, hurling the bearer to the bottom, bore it off in triumph into the town. Louis XI. rewarded the valour of the citizens by releasing them from taxes, and complimented the ladies by an ordonnance authorising them to take precedence of the men in the procession of St. Angadrème, instituted to commemorate the raising of the siege. This procession is still kept up, on the Sunday nearest the 14th Oct.; the females lead the way, carrying the banner so valorously acquired by Jeanne Hachette, which is preserved in the *H. de Ville.* A statue of the heroine, whose real name was Jeanne Laisné, by *Debray*, has been erected in the Place de l'Hôtel de Ville.

At an earlier period (1357) Beauvais was the centre of the revolt of the serfs against their lords, called *La Jacquerie*, from Jacques Bonhomme (Goodman James), the familiar sobriquet of the peasantry. It extended over several provinces before it was put down by the armed force of the seigneurs banded together, and with fearful cruelty. Froissart thus describes an instance of wholesale vengeance performed upon the rebellious peasants by the Duke of Orleans, the Count of Foix, and the Captal de Buch: "They set fire to the town and burned it clean, and all the villagers of the town that they could close therein."

[Branch *Rly.* W. 13 m. to *Gournay*, and S.W. 20 m. to *Gisors*, both on the Rly. between Paris and Dieppe, see Rte. 11A.]

The Rly. from Beauvais continues N.W. to

10 m. *St. Omer-en-Chaussée.* [Branch Rly. N. to Saleux for Amiens, see Rte. 5.]

30 m. *Abancourt* Junct. Stat. [Branch Rly. N.E. to *Amiens*, and S.W. to *Serqueux*, see Rte. 5.]

25 m. *Longroy-Gamache* Junct. Stat. [Branch Rly. N.E. to Longpré in Rte. 3.]

8 m. **Eu** Stat. *Inns:* H. du Cygne; H. du Commerce.) A somewhat lifeless town of 4168 Inhab., on the Bresle, a small stream which formed the boundary of Normandy, and which falls into the Channel 2 m. lower down at Tréport. In the centre of the town is an irregular market-place, no two sides of which are parallel, overlooked by the E. end of the parish *Church* (M.H.), a fine Gothic building injured by modern restorations, propped up by huge flying buttresses, but without towers. It is in the Pointed style of the 13th cent.; the triforium arches of the nave open into the aisles; the E. end is angular, and some of the side chapels are of late florid Gothic. The screen before that of St. Laurent, an Irish archbishop, is worthy of notice; as well as the Entombment in another chapel, composed of statues as large as life. Mixed up with the fine Early Pointed work there occur later portions, as in the upper part of the choir, and some of very debased character, such as the fantastic spiral column in the S. transept. The church was restored by Louis Philippe, who gave several windows of painted glass from the manufactory at Sèvres.

In the *crypt* below the church are deposited many monumental effigies, mutilated during the revolution of 1793, but restored by King Louis Philippe, and placed on classical sarcophagi. The oldest is that of St. Lawrence, Archbishop of Dublin, who died at Eu (1181), where he had repaired on a mission of peace, to reconcile Henry II. and the King of Ireland. The rest are of the counts of Eu, of the Artois family; viz. Charles d'Artois, 1471—the head and hands are of marble; of his father, Philip d'Artois, made prisoner at Nicopolis by the Turks, d. 1397; Jean d'Artois, 1386, his surcoat studded with fleurs-de-lis in bronze—he was made prisoner at Crécy along with the French king; Isabella de Melun, his wife, in a dress elaborately carved; dogs at her feet; Jeanne de Saveuse, wife of Charles d'Artois, a pleasing countenance, in costume of the time; Hélène de Melun, his 2nd wife; Isabelle d'Artois, who died unmarried, 1397.

The *Château* (M. H.) was used as a summer residence by King Louis-Philippe, who inherited it, with the Comte d'Eu, from his mother, daughter of the Duc de Penthièvre. Here His Majesty received Queen Victoria in 1843. It is a low red-brick building surmounted by high tent-shaped roofs of slate. It was built 1578 by Henri de Lorraine le Balafré, Duc de Guise, on the site of a castle in which Wm. the Conqueror was first visited by his rival Harold, which had belonged in turn to the Lusignans, the Briennes, the Artois, the Clèves, and the Saint Pols, and which was burnt down by order of Louis XI. (1475), to punish the treachery of the Comte de St. Pol. It was much enlarged by Louis Philippe, and splendidly fitted up, the walls being covered with a collection of historical and family portraits, to the number of 1100. In consequence of the events of 1852, all the pictures and furniture of the palace were removed to England; but the Comte de Paris was re-instated in 1874, and he has employed M. Viollet-le-Duc to restore the building.

The small *Chapelle*, a mixture of Gothic and Italian in its decorations, has some modern painted glass windows from the manufactory of Sèvres; one is a portrait of St. Amélie, the patron of the late virtuous queen, after the picture by *Paul Delaroche*.

The *Parc* or grounds are a wilderness of trees, mostly elms, planted in rows with angular terraces; a gloomy canal, and muddy circular ponds beset with willows. On the l. of the castle a few beeches preserve the remembrance of their predecessors, beneath whose branches the Balafré Duc de Guise heard the suits of his vassals, and concerted plots against his sovereign. Here a small space was railed in by Louis-Philippe, with this inscription :—"Ici les Guises tenaient conseil au XVI^{e} siècle." At the extremity of the grounds is a terrace overlooking the gap through which the Bresle enters the sea; the village Tréport is perceived at its mouth. On this terrace is a brick Pavillon, fitted up by Mademoiselle d'Orléans, during the time she was

banished to Eu by Louis XIV. for refusing to marry the paralytic and imbecile King of Portugal.

The effigies of Duc Henri de Guise (le Balafré), murdered at Blois, and of his wife Catherine de Clèves, are in the *Eglise du Collége*, originally of the Jesuits, who were established at Eu by le Balafré. The church, built out of the ruins of the old castle, as well as the monuments, were raised at her expense; they are rich in marble, but of little value as works of art. Henri is represented in armour, she in ruff and farthingale; attended by figures of Prudence, Strength, Faith, and Charity; Gillot was the sculptor. From the pulpit of this ch. Bourdaloue delivered his first sermon.

On the Bresle, near to the palace, is a *mill* for making sea-biscuit, sawing timber, &c., established by an Englishman.

From Eu the line reaches the coast at

3 m. *Tréport* Stat.

This is the port of Eu, and a picturesque fishing town of 3900 Inhab., now rising into a considerable watering-place. (*Inns:* H. de la Plage, handsome and in best situation; H. de France; H. de l'Europe.) The old *Ch. of St. Jacques* (M.H.) of late debased work, strikingly situated on a height, approached by a flight of steps, is remarkable for its elaborate W. *porch*, and for the roof of its nave, distinguished by pendants of stone hanging from it, of the 15th cent. Tréport is supposed to be the *Ulterior Portus* of Julius Cæsar.

There is an extensive bathing establishment, and a handsome promenade along the beach.

ROUTE 5.

AMIENS TO ROUEN—RAIL.

Amiens to	Kil.	Miles.
Saleux	8	5
Poix	30	19
Abancourt	51	31
Serqueux	72	44
Monterollier	90	56
Rouen	117	72

Time, 3¼ to 4 hrs.; *trains*, 4 daily.

This line is convenient for travellers proceeding from England and Belgium to the western parts of France, and especially to Rouen and Havre, the great détour by Paris being avoided.

Amiens is described in Rte. 3. The line gradually ascends to gain the table-land between the valley of the Somme and the Bresle.

5 m. *Saleux* Junct. Stat. [Branch Rly. S. to St.-Omer-en-Chaussée Stat. for Beauvais and Paris (see Rte. 5A).]

14 m. *Poix Stat.*, on the old post-road from Abbeville to Beauvais, a town of 1436 Inhab., which gives a ducal title to the Noailles family.

13 m. *Abancourt* Junct. Stat. Rly. N. 36 m. to Treport (see Rte. 4).

After passing *Formerie*, the line reaches its greatest elevation, 226 mètres, before entering Normandy.

9 m. *Gaillefontaine* Stat. (*Inn*: H. de la Poste). The town of this name is 2 m. on rt. of the stat.; it contains 1700 Inhab. Its castle, of which little remains, was erected in 1050, by William the Conqueror.

5 m. *Serqueux Forges-les-Eaux* Junct. Stat. 2 m. from the town (*Inn:* H. Lion d'Or). A town of 1739 Inhab., and watering-place, possessing 3 mineral springs of some repute—*La Reinette*, *La Royale*, and *La Cardinale*; the two last named from Louis XIII. and Cardinal Richelieu, who visited Forges to drink the waters in 1632, the period of their greatest celebrity, in consequence of Anne of Austria, after

having been childless for 18 years, here becoming enceinte with Louis XIV.;—an event which was attributed to the effects of these waters. There is an *Etablissement Thermal*, with baths, reading-rooms, &c., in the lower part of the town. The waters are chalybeate, and useful in lymphatic affections, chronic disorders of the stomach, &c.

[Branch Rly. N. to Dieppe, S. to Paris (see Rte. 11A).]

6 m. *Sommery* Stat., village of 860 Inhab., in a wooded district, on leaving which the rly. penetrates the hills by a long tunnel of 1627 yards.

5 m. *Monterollier - Buchy* Junct. Stat. There is some good painted glass in the parish *Ch.* of Buchy, 2 m. distant, representing the martyrdom of St. Peter.

[Branch Rly. N.W. 13 m. to Clères, on rly. from Rouen to Dieppe (see Rte. 6).]

The rly. continues through a fine country to

14 m. *Darnetal* Stat., on the Aubette, in the midst of a district abounding in villas and manufactories, from which, following the valley of the Clarette, having the Hill of St. Catherine on l., it runs beneath the line from Rouen to Havre to gain the stat. at Rouen, in the suburb of Martainville, near the boulevard of the same name at the W. extremity of the city.

3 m. *Rouen* Stat. (Rte. 8).

ROUTE 5A.

AMIENS TO PARIS BY BEAUVAIS AND BEAUMONT—RAIL.

Distance, 99 m.; *time*, 5 to 6 hrs.; *trains*, 3 daily.

This rly., now completed, offers a convenient opportunity of visiting Beauvais on the way to Paris, but the time occupied is considerable, as there are no express trains.

Amiens is described in Rte. 3. The line follows the Rouen Rly. (Rte. 5), as far as

5 m. *Saleux* Junct. Stat., and then turns S. to

22 m. *Crevecœur* Stat.

8 m. *St.-Omer-en-Chaussée* Junct. Stat. Here the line from Tréport to Paris (Rte. 4) is joined and followed to

10 m. **Beauvais** Junct. Stat., described in Rte. 4. The line here turns S. to

16 m. *Méru* Stat., and joins the Creil and Pontoise line at

10 m. *Persan-Beaumont* Stat. Thence to

28 m. **Paris**, ee Rte. 3A.

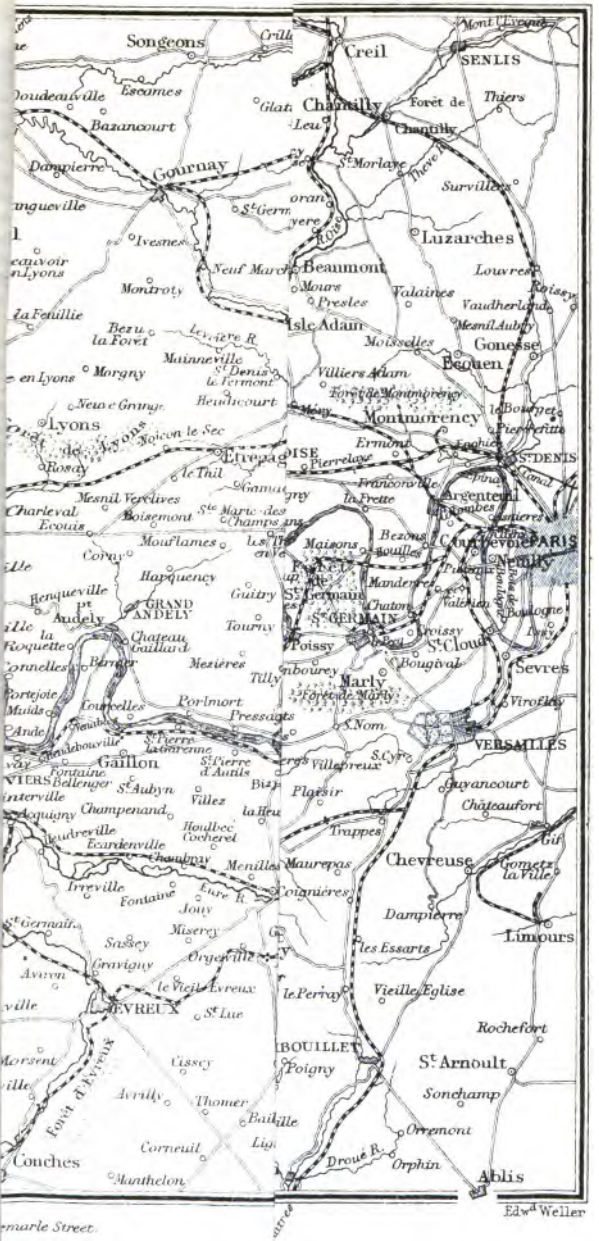
ROUTE 6.

DIEPPE TO ROUEN—RAIL.

	Kil.	Miles.
Dieppe		
St.-Aubin	7	4
Longueville	17	11
Auffay	26	16
St.-Victor	31	19
Clères Junct.	40	25
Monville	46	29
Malaunay	52	32
Maromme	56	34
Rouen	65	40

Time, 1¾ to 2 hrs.; *trains*, 6 daily.

Steamers ply daily from Newhaven to Dieppe in 6 hrs.; express trains in correspondence to Rouen and Paris. (See *Introductory Information*, *d*.). (For the shorter line to Paris, *viâ* Serqueux, see Rte, 11A.)


Songeons
Creil
SENLIS
Mont Epouvante
Chaumontel
Chaumont
Chantilly
Forêt de Thiers
Bazancourt
Gournay
Dampierre
St Morlaye
Survilliers
Luzarches
Ivesnes
Beaumont
Neuf Marché
Louvres
Montroty
Mours
Presles
Valaines
Roissy
Vaudherland
Mesnil Aubry
Isle Adam
Moisselles
Gonesse
Bezu la Foret
Levriere R
Mainneville
St Denis le Fermont
Villiers Adam
Beauen
Morgny
Neuf e Grange
Beaucourt
Forêt de Montmorency
Montmorency
Lyons
Noicon le Sec
Ermont
Eaubonne
St DENIS
Rosny
le Thil
Pierrelaye
Argenteuil
Mesnil Verclives
Francoville
la Frette
Charleval
Boisemont
Ste Marie des Champs
Maisons
Bezons
Courbevoie
PARIS
Ecouis
Mouflames
Corvay
Harqueney
Neuilly
Henqueville
Guitry
St Germain
Chaton
Valeton
Audely
GRAND ANDELY
Tournay
ST GERMAIN
Boulogne
Roquette
Chateau Gaillard
Poissy
St Cloud
Sevres
Cornelles
Mezieres
Tilly
Bougival
Portejoie
Marly
Forêt de Marly
Viroflay
Muids
Courcelles
Porlmort
Pressagis
St Nom
Gaillon
St Pierre d'Autils
St Cyr
VERSAILLES
Fontaine
Villepreux
Bellenger
St Aubyn
Plaisir
Guyancourt
Interville
Champenard
Villez
la Heu
Chateaufort
Houdreville
Houlbec Cocherel
Trappes
Ecardenville
Chevreuse
Chambray
Maurepas
Irreville
Coignieres
Fontaine
Eure R.
Dampierre
Limours
Jouy
Miserey
les Essarts
Sassey
Orgeville
Gravigny
Vieille Eglise
le Vieil Evreux
le Perray
EVREUX
St Luc
Rochefort
BOUILLET
Cissey
Poigny
St Arnoult
Sonchamp
Averilly
Thomer
Baille
Orremont
Couches
Corneuil
Droue R.
Orphin
Manthelon
Ablis
Edwd Weller

Dieppe (*Buffet* at Stat.). (*Inns:* H. Royal, comfortable and well managed, facing the sea and Promenade, and near the Bathing establishment; H. des Bains (Morgan's)—good table-d'hôte; H. Bristol; Grand Hôtel de Dieppe, also overlooking the sea; H. Victoria; H. de Paris, in the Place de la Comédie, fair and moderate; the landlady speaks English; H. de Londres, on the Quay, near the landing-place from the steamers, second-rate.)

Cabs—the course, 1½ fr.; the hr., 2 fr.

Post-office, Rue Houard; *Telegraph-office* at the Rly. Stat.

The seaport town of Dieppe (20,187 Inhab.) is situated in a depression between two ranges of the chalk cliffs which here form the coast-line, as white and nearly as tall as those of England. Through this gap the small river Arques flows into the sea, making an abrupt bend round the tongue of flat land upon which a part of the town is built, and forming a tolerable tidal harbour fit for vessels of 500 tons, which is lined with quays, and cleared from mud by sluices. Within the harbour a large floating-dock has been constructed, and altogether Dieppe is rising rapidly from its decayed condition. It is one of the chief fishing-ports in France, equipping annually 60 vessels for the cod-fishery, and many more for that of the herring. It is much frequented as a sea-bathing place, and in July and Aug. becomes the resort of the fashionable society of Paris.

The streets are regular, and display few specimens of antiquity, in consequence of the bombardment of the town by the English, who, returning from an unsuccessful attack on Brest, 1694, revenged themselves by laying this town in ruins,—a reckless and inglorious exploit. The principal street runs parallel with the sea from the harbour to the castle, and contains some tolerable shops. The *Faubourg de Pollet*, on the W., inhabited almost exclusively by fishermen, is that in which the most character and peculiarity of costume is observable.

The **Ch. of St. Jacques* (M. H.) stands in the square a little to the W. of the harbour. The body of the building is much hidden behind the flying buttresses, some of them consisting of open screen-work tracery with 8 mullions. The slated cupola, however, above the cross, is modern, and an eyesore; the W. tower, near the entrance, is very good late Gothic. The screens and carvings in the side-aisles, especially that near the sacristy—a confusion of the Gothic styles—and that in the chapel of St. Yves, deserve notice as examples of French florid Gothic of the 16th cent. The bosses of the groined roof over the choir are of delicate work. In the 2nd chapel on rt. is one of those representations of the Holy Sepulchre surrounded by figures of the 3 Maries and other holy personages, so common in Romish churches abroad, executed in a very inferior style. The stalls in the choir, in the style of the 15th cent., were executed by an artist of Rouen in 1865. On one of the piers is a memorial to the merchant-prince Ango, who is buried in the chapel of St. Yves.

In the Place Nationale, W. of the church, is a *statue* by Dantain of Admiral *Duquesne*, a native of Dieppe and a Calvinist, who beat the Dutch Admiral de Ruyter off the coast of Sicily. In the adjoining Cours Bourbon, facing the Quay, is held the fish-market, a busy scene in the early morning on the arrival of the fishing-boats, Dieppe being one of the principal ports from which the supply of Paris is derived.

The *Castle* (M. H.), rising on the declivity of the cliff at the W. end of the town, built in the 15th cent., is now a barrack, and modernised. It contains nothing remarkable. It is, however, a picturesque object, with its group of quaint cone-headed towers, its high bridge and drawbridge spanning a chasm which runs down to the sea; it commands a fine view, and it possesses historical associations of great interest. Within these walls Henri IV., retreating before the army of the

League, found shelter among his "bons Dieppois," as he called them, who had been the first to acknowledge his right to the throne, before the battle of Arques. He made choice of Dieppe from the attachment of its inhabitants, the fidelity of its governor, and the advantage of an open communication by sea with England. While here he received from Queen Elizabeth a reinforcement of 1000 Scotch and 4500 English soldiers.

In 1650 the Duchesse de Longueville, so prominent among the leaders of the Fronde, defying the royal authority, was compelled to take refuge in the castle; but being pursued even hither by the vengeance of Mazarin and Anne of Austria, she with difficulty at length escaped by night, and, making her way amidst storm and tempest, after innumerable escapes and adventures, embarked alone in an English vessel, dressed as a man, and at length succeeded in reaching Rotterdam. The other objects of interest at Dieppe are the *Hôtel de Ville*, in which is the Municipal Library, the *Musée*, and the *Manufacture des Tabacs*.

Dieppe 3 centuries ago was the most flourishing seaport of France, and contained 60,000 Inhab. The fleets of its adventurous merchants traversed every sea: one of them, indeed (Ango), riding in the Tagus with his merchant squadron, bearded the King of Portugal in his own capital; another captured the Canaries. Its skilful and hardy sailors distinguished themselves by their geographical discoveries and early settlements in the 15th and 16th cents. Claims are put forth for their having made the passage round the Cape of Good Hope before the Portuguese. If it were so, they certainly kept the secret so close that they have lost the credit of it. They were among the first visitors of the New World, explored Florida, opening the fur trade in Canada, and establishing the earliest European colony in Senegal; whence, as well as from the East Indies, they drew the costliest gums, gems, precious stones, metals, and tissues, with which they for a long time exclusively supplied their luxurious countrymen. The importation of elephants' teeth from Africa is said to have given rise to the *manufacture of carved ivory*, which still exists here, and is almost peculiar to Dieppe. The rivalry of Havre, and its superior advantages for internal communication by the Seine, were the ruin of Dieppe. The persecution of the Protestants and the English bombardment inflicted severe blows in addition; the town now, since the establishment of railway communication with the interior, is rapidly reviving. It was temporarily occupied by the Germans, Dec. 9, 1870.

The *Établissement des Bains*, situated at the W. extremity of the beach, is a handsome building of wood and glass, furnished with Ball-room and gardens, in which a band plays in the afternoon. It is well supplied with English and French newspapers. There are bathing machines. A series of little huts are erected at the sea-side, from which ladies issue in dark blouses, and gentlemen in wide trousers, and thus bathe in public. Ladies are assisted by male dippers appointed for this service, should their services be required. There are also *hot baths* near the beach. The ground bordering on the sea has been laid out in pretty gardens, walks, and drives, resorted to in the season by a gay throng.

Near the entrance to the harbour are numerous building-slips; and extensive breeding and fattening grounds for oysters are laid down in the Bassins de Retenue (small *restaurant* adjoining), which furnish supplies to Paris and other towns of the interior.

English Ch. Service, Sunday at 1 P.M., in the old Carmelite convent chapel in the Rue de la Barre.

Omnibus twice daily to, 19 m., Eu and Tréport (see Rte. 18).

Environs.

a. About 2 m. to the E., on the cliffs above the sea, near the road to *Eu* (Rte. 18), is a camp capable of holding many thousand men, once attributed to Cæsar, but now supposed to be Gallic, and called *la Cité des*

Limes. It is triangular in form, defended on the land-side by a rampart in places more than 50 ft. high.

b. The excursion may also be made in a *boat* from Cours Bourbon in 1½ hr., or by *rly*. (see Rte. 11A), but the walk is delightful, to the ruins of the **Castle of Arques*, situated in the valley of the Béthune, at its junction with the Eaulne, about 4 m. S.E. of Dieppe, and celebrated for the momentous victory gained beneath the walls by Henri IV. and his devoted band of 4000 Protestants over the army of the League, 30,000 strong, under the Duc de Mayenne, which decided the fate of the Béarnais prince. The artillery from its walls contributed not a little to the result of that day. "Il en fut tirée," says Sully in his Memoirs, "une volée de quatre pièces, qui fit quatre belles rues dans leurs escadrons et bataillons." Three or four more discharges not only checked their advance, but drove them behind a bend of the valley to shelter themselves from the cannonade, and from this check they never recovered. The king, expecting the Leaguers to debouche down the valley to attack him, had disposed and intrenched his little band accordingly when he suddenly found the advanced guard of the Duc de Mayenne in his rear, pushing forward to cut him off from his stronghold, Dieppe. Henri, with great quickness and dexterity, changed his front, threw up fresh ramparts to protect his flanks, and managed still to keep up his communication with Dieppe. Among the heroic traits of Henri on that anxious and hard-fought day, are his words to M. de Belin, an officer of the League, who scornfully inquired where Henri's forces were, to oppose so large an army: "Vous ne les voyez pas toutes, car vous ne comptez pas Dieu et le bon droit, qui m'assistent." A rude *obelisk*, raised on the brow of the hill, marks the spot where the deadliest struggle occurred.

The **Castle* occupies a commanding position at the end of a tongue of high land between two valleys, and covers a large area with its ruins; but its shattered condition, arising less from the hazards of war and the effects of time than the dilapidations of man, has robbed it of much of its picturesqueness. Down to the end of the last cent., the Government allowed it to be pulled to pieces as a mere quarry for building-materials. It is difficult to fix the age of its shapeless walls, deprived of their casing of masonry; but it is probable that the oldest parts, viz. the square *Donjon* and its enclosure, isolated by a deep fosse cut in the chalk, date from the time of Count William, uncle of the Conqueror. Our Henry II. rebuilt the castle at the end of the 12th cent.; other portions are not older than the 15th. The English, under Talbot and Warwick, again obtained possession of it in 1419, and kept it for 30 years, down to the capitulation of Rouen, by which it was yielded to Charles VII. in 1449: it now belongs to the de Reiset family, to whom it was sold in 1826. The main entrance remains flanked by 2 massive towers of immense size; and portions of the piers of the drawbridge which led to it are still standing, but the 3 successive arches of the gateway are torn into nearly shapeless rents.

c. Within a pleasant walk from Dieppe (4 m.), at the pretty but scattered *village of Varengeville*, stands *le Manoir d'Ango*, built about 1525, the château of the celebrated Dieppois merchant Ango—the host and friend of Francis I. Though now converted into a farm-house, so little of its external form is defaced that the eye can readily trace the decoration which distinguished the style of the Renaissance when it was built.

"The walls are principally constructed of black hewn flint, which, alternating with a white stone, produce a very beautiful mosaic. The sculptures with which they are enriched are of the most classical and graceful form. A number of large medallions above the entrance, and along the façade of the principal corps de bâtiment, are remarkable: among them the portraits of Francis I. and Diane de Poitiers. In the interior are some sculptured fireplaces and the remains

of a large fresco; but they are only to be discovered by groping amongst the greniers, into which the apartments have been changed."

1 m. beyond Varengeville is the lighthouse, *Phare d'Ailly*, reached by a path along the cliff, whence a fine sea view.

1 m. farther, across a heath, is *St. Marguerite*, where a fine Roman villa (M. H.) was discovered 1847, and is still preserved. The village *Church* is in part Norman of the 11th cent., ending in an apse.

Railway to Rouen.

The line is now extended to the Quay right opposite the steamers, and the *Terminus* is beyond the wet-dock (bassin-à-flot).

A tunnel at Appeville, rather more than 1 m. long, carries the rly. into the valley of the Scie, up which it runs for more than 18 m., crossing it 22 times. It is enlivened by several mills in the midst of meadows and orchards.

In the outskirts of Dieppe we cross the road to Havre. The high-road to Rouen is passed on a level. l. Beyond Sauqueville are the ruins of the *Castle* of Charlesmesnil. The way is varied here and there at long intervals by villas or châteaux, without any claim to beauty. The numerous orchards are one of the characteristic features of Normandy, which is a cider, not wine-drinking, province.

4 m. *St.-Aubin-sur-Scie* Stat., at a short distance from the town of Offranville on rt.

7 m. *Longueville* Stat. stands on the domain of an abbey, the chief conventual building of which is now a cotton-mill. Upon the hill over the village, on l., may be perceived the ruins of the *Castle of Longueville*, celebrated during the wars of the Fronde, and for the courage and adventures of the Duchesse, sister of the Great Condé.

5 m. *Auffay* Stat. A considerable village, with several cotton-mills, a large sugar refinery, and tanneries, and a pretty Gothic ch., 16th cent.

3 m. *St.-Victor* Stat. William the Conqueror was the founder of the abbaye of St. Victor here; his statue, of the 13th or 14th cent., occupies a niche outside of the ch.; of the conventual buildings the only part remaining is the chapter-house, now a wood-store. The Scie rises about 100 yards to the l.

[rt. About 3½ m. on rt. is Tôtes. (H. Cygne, a small country *Inn.*) The spinning and weaving of cotton furnish employment to the inhabitants.]

Mills and factories increase in number as we approach Rouen, the great centre of the cotton manufacture in France.

The summit-level of the line, 487 ft., is attained through the long and deep cutting of Frichemesnil, leading into the Valley of Clères, a little beyond which is

6 m. *Clères* Junct. Stat. In one of the chapels of the modern *Ch.* are several mutilated mediæval statues.

[Branch Rly. E. 13 m. to Buchy, on the line from Rouen to Amiens (Rte. 5).]

The rly. descends rather rapidly, passing by

Monville, a large village on the l.

The Dieppe Rly. falls into the line from Rouen to Havre near

4 m. *Malaunay* Junct. Stat., before reaching which the *Viaduct* of 8 arches, 95 ft. high, is crossed. (Rte. 14.)

The line of houses, factories, and chimneys, interspersed with villas, orchards, and gardens, almost uninterrupted, from Malaunay to Rouen, may remind an Englishman of the clothing district of the W. of England.

Before entering Rouen a pretty view is obtained of the blue hills which border the Seine.

4 m. *Maromme* Stat. Through 2 tunnels, one 1270 yards long, partly under the suburbs Bovreuil and Cauchoise, and the cemetery of St. Gervais, we reach

3 m. **Rouen** Stat. (excellent *Buffet*), Rue Verte, on the Boulevard (in Rte. 8),

ROUTE 8.

PARIS TO ROUEN—RAIL.

Paris to	Kil.	Miles.
Poissy	27	17
Meulan	41	25
Mantes Junct.	58	36
Vernon	80	50
St.-Pierre-du-Vauvray Junct.	107	66
Oissel Junct.	126	79
Rouen	136	84

Time, 2¾ to 4¼ hours; *trains*, 9 daily.

Terminus in Paris, Rue St. Lazare.

This railroad was opened May, 1843. Its engineer was Mr. Locke; many of the shareholders, and most of the workmen, were English.

The rly., after passing on a bridge over the Rue de Stockholm, and through 2 tunnels under the Place de l'Europe and Les Batignolles, quits Paris, emerging on an open plain. The village of *Clichy* is passed on the rt., and the Seine is crossed by a *bridge* of 5 arches before reaching the pretty village of

3 m. *Asnières* Junct. Stat. (*Inn:* H. Cassegrain) on the l. bank of the Seine, here crossed by another bridge, below that of the rly. The rly. bridge was burned by the insurgents in 1848, and both bridges by the French in 1870. The *Versailles* Railroad (rive droite) (see Rte. 33) and the *St.-Germain* Railroad (see Rte. 9) branch off to the l. a little beyond this.

[rt. Branch Rly. 9 m. by Argenteuil to Ermont (see Rte. 3).]

4 m. *Colombes* Stat., a village, where Henrietta Maria, widow of Charles I. and daughter of Henri IV., died in great poverty, 1669. At *Bezons* the railway recrosses the Seine by a bridge of 9 iron arches, each 100 ft. span, on stone piers. Beyond this an embankment continues to the Seine, which is traversed for the second time by a bridge like the former, leading to

5 m. *Maisons* Stat., at the end of the avenue leading to the *Château.* (*Inns:* H. Talma, once the residence of the great tragic actor; good; Le Petit Havre). The *Château* (M. H.) was the property of Lafitte, banker and minister of Louis-Philippe, was built by François Mansard, 1658, for the Surintendant des Finances Réné de Longeuil, and is a handsome edifice in the Italian style. Voltaire wrote his 'Zaire' here, and he was here attacked with smallpox, which nearly carried him off. Before the first Revolution it belonged to the Comte d'Artois, and was afterwards given by Napoleon I. to Marshal Lannes. The park has been cut up into building lots, sold piecemeal, and studded over with villas. Access is given to the new colony by a bridge of wood resting on stone piers.

The rly. proceeds hence in a cutting across the forest of St. Germain, passing by *Conflans* Stat., until it again reaches the l. bank of the Seine a little before arriving at

7 m. **Poissy** Stat. (*Inn:* H. de Rouen), a town of 4973 Inhab., on the l. bank of the Seine, the birthplace of St. Louis (1215), who was wont to sign himself by the modest style of Louis de Poissy. The font at which he was baptized is shown in the parish *Ch.*, a picturesque and interesting building, principally of the 12th cent.; but parts of the nave were rebuilt in the 16th and 17th. The S. porch was badly restored, 1825. It is surmounted by 2 octagon towers with spires. Under the W. tower is a porch of the 10th cent.

The *Conference of Poissy* was held 1561, with the hope of adjusting differences between the Romanist and Calvinistic churches; Beza, with a train of doctors, appearing for the one party, and the papal legate, Cardinal Ippolito d'Este, for the other; Charles IX. attending the first meeting with his mother, Catherine de Medicis. But the controversialists soon separated, without having approached to a reconciliation, each side believing it had the best of the arguments.

An inconveniently narrow street leads to the long bridge of Poissy

over the Seine, of 37 arches of different sizes, including the approaches, built, it is said, by St. Louis. The 3 central arches were blown up in 1815 to prevent the passage of the Allies; or, as some say, so long ago as in 1589, by the Duc de Mayenne, general of the League, to secure a safe retreat for his army from the pursuit of the Maréchal de Biron, who had sacked Poissy because it refused to deliver its keys to kings Henri III. and IV.

The cattle-market which used to be held here for the supply of Paris is suppressed.

4 m. *Triel* Stat. In the *Ch.*, 15th and 16th cents. (rt. bank), is an Adoration of the Shepherds, said to be by *Poussin*, and some good painted glass. Near this and at Vaux are extensive plaster-of-Paris quarries.

4 m. *Meulan* Stat. (*Inn:* H. Impérial). This town, on the rt. bank of the Seine, is partly built on the slope of the hill, partly on an island in the river, joined to the banks by old stone bridges.

5 m. *Épone* Stat. Here is a fine *Ch.*, 12th cent.

The scenery of the valley is very pleasing. The banks of the river are enlivened with country-houses. The rly. runs in a cutting to the W. of the town of

6 m. **Mantes** Junct. Stat. (*Buffet*). [The rly. to Caen and Cherbourg (Rte. 25) branches off l.] (*Inns:* H. Grand Cerf—high charges; H. des Postillons.) This town is prettily situated on the margin of the Seine, whence it has gained the epithet "la Jolie." (5345 Inhab.)

The chief building is the *Ch. of Notre Dame* (M. H.), standing a little way above the bridge, partly restored 1863-4. It is a fine Gothic building of the end of the 12th cent.; the body supported by flying buttresses, the roof covered with coloured tiles. The portals are pointed; the sculpture which adorned them is sadly mutilated. The interior, in the early pointed style, is very pleasing; its most remarkable feature being the height of the triforium gallery formed of triple arches, which, being carried quite round the E. end, and lighted by windows behind, gives a cheerful character to the ch. These great vaulted passages, peculiar to the N.E. of France, were perhaps intended to afford spectators a good view of the numerous processions and ceremonies. *Obs.* the singular mode of vaulting at the E. end, with transverse pointed barrel-vaults, supported by pillars carrying horizontal imposts. The towers at the W. end open into the ch., a beautiful arrangement. The W. rose-window (c. 1220) has fine glass of the same period, representing the Last Judgment. The N.W. tower has been rebuilt. The whole ch. is as it were a reduced copy of Notre Dame, Paris, and is probably by the same architect." —*D. T.* The tower at the W. end has been rebuilt. It was erected for Blanche of Castille and her son St. Louis by Eudes de Montreuil, the architect.

The solitary *Tower of St. Maclou* is the sole remnant of another ch., built in 1344 with the toll dues exacted for leave to tow barges through the bridge on Sundays and holydays. It is deservedly preserved as a fine light Gothic structure. The *H. de Ville* is Gothic.

It was among the glowing embers of the houses and monasteries of Mantes, which William the Conqueror had caused to be burnt, that he received the injury in his corpulent person, caused by his horse starting, which proved mortal a few days after at Rouen. The castle of the French kings, where Henri IV. held the conferences with the Romish clergy which preceded his abjurance of the Protestant faith, was destroyed by the Regent Duke of Orleans.

3 m. *Rosny* Stat., a dirty village, contiguous to which, between it and the Seine, stands the *Château*, the birthplace of Sully, where he was frequently visited by his friend and master Henri IV. The king, having overtaken Sully on the road desperately wounded, carried on a litter, accompanied by his squires in

a like plight, fell on his neck and affectionately embraced him. The château is a plain solid building of red brick, with stone quoins and a high tent-roof, surrounded by a deep ditch; it was rebuilt by Sully at the beginning of the 17th cent. It is destitute of architectural beauty externally, and within has been modernised, although one room is still called Chambre de Sully. From 1818 down to the Revolution of 1830, Rosny was the favourite residence of the Duchesse de Berri, who erected here a chapel to contain the heart of her husband. The château has since changed hands repeatedly. The grounds extend for some distance along the margin of the river, to which they owe their sole charm, the ground being perfectly flat, and traversed by long formal avenues. In skirting the forest of Rosny, contiguous to the village, we are reminded of the sacrifice made by Sully, in felling in it at one time timber to the amount of 100,000 francs to pay his master's debts.

A great projecting buttress of chalk now intervenes, crowned by the village and ch. of *Rolleboise*, round which the Seine winds by a widely circuitous reach. The rly. pierces this by a *Tunnel* 2237 yards long — driven through the chalk and a flinty conglomerate, terminating on the W. at a short distance from

4 m. *Bonnières* Stat., the rly. having been previously carried over the high-road by a bridge. (*Inn:* H. du Chemin de Fer.) Hence the railroad runs under the high ground close to the river as far as

7 m. **Vernon** Junct. Stat. (*Inn:* H. du Lion d'Or.) This town (Pop. 8000), which, like many others in Normandy, gives a name to a noble English family, is prettily situated, and its interior retains a venerable air of antiquity in its timber-framed houses; but its narrow streets, however picturesque, are by no means convenient on a great highway of traffic. There is preserved an ancient tower (*Tour des Archives*), tall and massive; and a Gothic *Ch.*, the choir of the 13th, the nave of the 16th cent., in which one monument only among many escaped the Revolution,—that of a lady of the family Maignat,—consisting of a kneeling effigy in marble (date 1610). At the foot of the bridge is an antique building, now a mill. During the great war English prisoners were confined in it. The *Ch.* (M. H.), dating from 12th to 15th cents., is undergoing restoration. Vernon possesses a *hospital* founded by St. Louis, a very extensive establishment for the construction of artillery carriages, barracks, &c., and quarries of building-stone on the opposite side of the Seine.

The *Château de Bizy*, one of the finest seats in Normandy, was built by the Maréchal de Belle-Isle, then became the property of the Counts of Eu, and afterwards of the Duc de Penthièvre, and was destroyed at the Revolution. It is now replaced by a handsome *Château* in the Louis XIV. style, built 1866 for M. Ferrand Schickler by W. H. White, archt. The grounds are beautiful, and the walks through them agreeable. They are approached by a fine avenue near the stat.

[Rly. N.E. 26 m. to Gisors (Rte. 11A.), S.W. 12 m. to Pacy-sur-Eure (see Rte. 25).]

Vines cease to be cultivated beyond Vernon.

8 m. *Gaillon* Stat. is about 1½ m. from the village on l., where there is a large *penitentiary* (Maison Centrale de Detention), occupying the place of the *Château* of the archbishops of Rouen. It was built in 1515 for Cardinal d'Amboise, out of the tribute levied on the Genoese by Louis XII., the architects being Jean Joconde and Androuet du Cerceau, and was adorned by the sculptor Jean Juste de Tours. It was demolished at the Revolution, except the entrance portal, flanked by 4 turrets, and covered with inscriptions and bas-reliefs, the clock tower, and the chapel tower. A gateway, a splendid example of the style of the Renaissance, was transported to Paris, where it has been put up in the court of the Ecole des Beaux Arts.

classes, who also form the bulk of the population in the suburb St. Sever, on the l. bank of the Seine, having wider streets than the inner town, interspersed at intervals by tall smoking chimneys and lavishly glazed spinning-mills.

A walk through the town in the following order will carry the pedestrian to the objects best worth notice; but if he wishes to see them thoroughly, he will find one or even two days not enough. The Rue Grand Pont, which runs up from the lower or suspension-bridge, and is continued through the city under the names Rue des Carmes and Rue Beauvoisine, including the best shops, will bring us to the *Cathedral;* a little to the E. of which is the church of *St. Maclou*, from which the Rue de la République, running N. from the upper or stone bridge across the city, will lead to St. Ouen, the noblest church in Rouen. Close to it, in the *H. de Ville*, is the gallery of pictures; continuing in the same direction is the *Museum of Antiquities*, near the Boulevard Beauvoisine. Hence we must pursue the *Rue de Jeanne d'Arc*, back to the Quays, visiting in turn the *Palais de Justice*, *Tour de la Grosse Horloge*, *Place de la Pucelle* (where Joan of Arc was burnt), and the *Hôtel de Bourgthéroude*.

The ***Cathedral of Notre Dame* (M. H.) occupies with its W. front one side of a small square, formerly the fruit and flower market. The vast proportions of this grand Gothic façade, its elaborate and profuse decorations, and its stone screens of open tracery, impress one, at first glance, with wonder and admiration; diminished, however, though not destroyed, by a closer examination, which shows a confusion of ornament and a certain corruption of taste. "It is viciously florid, and looks like a piece of rock-work, rough and encrusted with images and tabernacles, and ornamented from top to bottom." —*G. Knight.* The projecting central porch and the whole of the upper part were the work of Cardinal d'Amboise (1509-1530); the lateral ones are of an earlier period (end of 12th cent.) and chaster in style; the sculpture adorning them deserves attention. Above the central door is the Tree of Jesse. Over the l.-hand (N.W.) door is the Death of St. John Baptist,—in it may be seen Herodias's daughter dancing, or rather tumbling, before Herod: over that on the rt., but much mutilated, the Virgin with Saints. Of the two stately flanking towers, that of St. Romain, on the N., dates from about 1240-60: it should be ascended on account of the fine view from the top. The rt.-hand, or S.W. tower, called *La Tour de Beurre*, because built (between 1485 and 1507) with the money paid for indulgences to eat butter in Lent, is a far more ornamented structure, surmounted by an octagonal stage, finishing with a light open parapet. It has been restored. It contained the famous bell named George d'Amboise, melted down at the Revolution. Of the central spire the less that is said the better; it is a cage of cast-iron intended to replace a spire of wood destroyed by lightning in 1822; and judging from its shape and size, as seen from a distance, might be taken for the parent of the factory chimneys in and about the town. It rises to a height of 482 ft.; and is quite out of character with the rest of the building. A corkscrew staircase of iron worms itself up the centre to a dizzy height.

The N. and S. fronts—which, together with their fine portals, date early in the 14th cent.—are in a style resembling the decorated Gothic of England, with geometric tracery. The very beautiful N. door, called *Portail de la Librairie*, because nearest to the old Chapter Library, has among its sculptures the Creation and Last Judgment. The opposite one leading into the S. transept, called *Portail de la Calende*, and of the same age and style, is ornamented with bas-reliefs from the history of Joseph, among a host of other subjects. The figure hanging, vulgarly supposed to represent a corn-merchant who suffered for using false measures, while his property was confiscated to build this entrance, is more accurately explained to be Pharaoh's chief baker. The N. and S. transepts are flanked on either side by open towers of great

beauty, and of such proportions as would fit them for the W. front of an English cathedral.

The *interior*, of admirable proportions, in all the main points is of the 13th cent., and measures 435 ft. in length; the height of the nave is 89½ ft. Above the main arches of the nave runs a second tier, smaller, but also opening into the aisles. The three rose-windows, in the nave and transepts, are very fine in size and decoration. In the end chapel, in the S. aisle, is the tomb and effigy of Rollo, first Duke of Normandy, and opposite to it that of his son William Longue Epée: but the figures are probably not older than the 13th cent.

The *choir*, separated from the nave by a heavy modern Grecian screen, was built between 1280 and 1300. The carving of the stalls, executed 1467, is very elaborate. The finest and oldest painted glass will be found in the chapels of the choir aisles; it is of the 13th cent. Small lozenge-shaped tablets of marble, let into the pavement of the choir, mark the spots where the heart of Richard Cœur de Lion, and the bodies of his brother Henry (died 1183), of William son of Geoffrey Plantagenet their uncle, and of John Duke of Bedford, regent under Henry VI. (1435), were interred. Their monuments, much injured by the outrages of the Huguenots in 1562, when all parts of the church suffered more or less, were removed, and lost sight of until 1838 and 1867. The *effigy of Richard I.*, a rude statue 6½ ft. long, in limestone, much mutilated, represents him crowned, and in the royal robes. His "lion heart" was also found still perfect, but shrunk in size, enveloped in a sort of greenish taffety enclosed in a case of lead; it is now placed in the tomb. His body was interred at Fontevrault; but he bequeathed his heart to Rouen, on account of the great affection which he bore to the Normans. The effigy is now placed in the S. side of the choir. The *Chapel of the Virgin* (1304), behind the high altar, contains two splendid and highly interesting monuments. On the rt.-hand is that of Cardinal George d'Amboise, Abp. of Rouen and minister of Louis XII., and his brother, a magnificent structure of marble, in the style of the Renaissance; it was executed in 1525. The marble statues of the two cardinals, uncle and nephew, kneel beneath a canopy richly ornamented and gilt; behind is a bas-relief of St. George and the Dragon; above, in niches arranged two by two, are statues of the 12 Apostles; below are the Cardinal Virtues. The pilasters and intervening spaces are adorned with rich and fanciful arabesques. The bodies of the Cardinals d'Amboise were torn from the grave by the Revolutionists of 1793, the lead of the coffins melted, and their contents dispersed.

On the l. side of the same chapel is the monument, in white and black marble, of Louis de Brézé, grand seneschal of Normandy; better known as the husband of Diane de Poitiers, the favourite of Henri II., by whom it was erected. The effigy of the distressed widow kneels at the head of an emaciated corpse representing her husband after death, stretched on a sarcophagus of black marble. She is in a mourning attitude corresponding with the words of the epitaph which she caused to be engraved on the tomb:—

"Indivulsa tibi quondam, et fidissima conjux,
Ut fuit in thalamo sic erit in tumulo."

A statement, however, that must be taken in an ironical sense; as it is certain that she was not buried with him, but at her château of Anet, and it is probable that she was as true to her word in one respect as in the other. Above, in an arched recess, is the statue of the duke on horseback and in full armour. This tomb is a splendid work of the time of Francis I.; and is attributed to Jean Goujon, or Jean Cousin. A rich florid Gothic niche at the side, surmounted by a stone canopy of open work and intervening stems, was erected at an earlier period (1465) to Pierre de Brézé, grandfather of the preceding. Neither statue nor inscription remains.

The elaborately carved screen in front of the sacristy, executed in the

latter part of the 15th cent., and its wrought-iron door, are worthy of notice.

Passing the *Archevêché*, contiguous to the cathedral on its N. and E. side, we come to the

**Church of St. Maclou*, which ranks third among the churches of Rouen in beauty. Its grandest feature is its triple porch; it is a fine specimen of the florid architecture of the 15th cent., and the sculpture adorning it is of exquisite taste and beauty of execution. *Obs.* the wooden doors (including that on the N. side), beautifully carved with Scripture subjects in relief, attributed to Jean Goujon, and the elaborate winding stair of stone (16th cent.) near the W. entrance, leading to the organ-loft. There is much painted glass in the windows. The nave is limited to 3 bays. The stone spire was built in 1867. Behind the E. end, in the Rue Martainville, will be seen the *Cloisters*, now a hospital.

The fine wide street, Rue de la République, from the Bridge, *Pont de Pierre*, to the Boulevard, leads to the ***Church of St. Ouen* (he was archbp. of Rouen, d. 678), which surpasses the cathedral in size, purity of style, masterly execution, and judicious decoration. Its defect is a want of apparent strength and solidity; a vaulted roof over a house of glass demands more evident strength of support. Although it suffered considerably from the Huguenots (1562), who made three bonfires within the building to burn the stalls, pulpit, organ, and priests' robes; and from the republicans, who turned it into an armourer's shop, and raised a smith's forge in the interior, by the smoke of which the windows were blackened until they ceased to be transparent, it has escaped in a remarkable degree; and judicious restorations leave little to desire touching its state of repair.

The first stone of the existing edifice (for 4 other churches had preceded it) was laid 1318 by Abbot Jean Roussel; the choir, the chapels, and great part of the transepts were completed in 21 years, and the nave and tower finished by the end of the 15th cent. Thus, one plan being followed to the termination, perfect harmony of style prevails throughout. The W. front, long unfinished, has been completed by the addition of 2 flanking steeples, surmounting 3 deep-set portals. It must be regretted that the original design (still preserved in the library) has not been more strictly followed. This ch. is now one of the few great ecclesiastical monuments on the Continent which are actually finished.

Above the cross rises the central tower, 285 ft. high, which, whether examined close at hand (as it ought to be) or seen at a distance rising above the town, is a model of grace and delicacy. It is an octagon composed of open arches and tracery, throwing out flying buttresses to the turrets in the angles, and terminates with a crown of fleurs-de-lis, which ancient royal symbol is also discovered in the pattern of the tracery of the windows, and in the painted glass.

The S. portal, called *des Marmousets* from figures of the animals carved on it, deserves attentive examination, as a gem of Gothic work scarcely to be surpassed. It is surrounded by a fringe of open trefoil arches, while 2 groined pendants 6 ft. long drop from its vault. The bas-relief over the door represents the Death and Assumption of the Virgin, with the statue of St. Ouen beneath: the whole has been well restored.

The interior, notwithstanding its size (443 ft. long, 83 wide, 104 high), is peculiarly light and graceful; the front pillars of its richly moulded piers run up uninterruptedly to the roof as ribs, the side ones bend under the arches. The clerestory being very large increases the effect of lightness; "the windows seem to have absorbed all the solid wall," and the roof is maintained in its place by the support of pillars and buttresses alone. The four central pillars supporting the tower are unrivalled. All the glass is painted, and there are 2 noble rose-windows filled with it. The stranger should look into the holy-water basin (bénitier) close to the W. door; he will find the beauties of the interior all mirrored on

the surface of the water. The slab tomb of the master mason under and by whom this noble ch. was reared is in St. Agnes' chapel, the 2nd on the l. in the N. choir aisle. His name was Alexander Berneval; and, according to tradition, he murdered his apprentice through envy, because the youth had surpassed, in the execution of the rose-window in the N. transept, into the tracery of which the pentalpha is introduced, that which his master had constructed in the S. transept. Though the mason paid the penalty of his crime, the monks, out of gratitude for his skill, interred his body within the church which he had contributed so much to ornament.

The whole of the transept, choir, and lower part of the tower, are decorated in character, passing into the *Flamboyant* in the upper storey of the tower and in the nave.

The material used in the construction of St. Ouen is an indurated grey chalk, containing flints, which have been often patiently cut through in the delicate carving and tracery. But the details of the building should be studied on the roof, upon the tower, and in the internal galleries.

A pretty *Public Garden*, whose great ornament, however, is the adjacent church, extends along the N. side of St. Ouen, behind the Hôtel de Ville; it was originally the convent garden. Within it, attached to the church, stands a very perfect *Norman tower*, with round-headed windows, in the style of the 11th cent.

The **Hôtel de Ville*, a handsome building of Italian architecture, attached to the N. transept of the church, formed part of the great Benedictine monastery of St. Ouen, to which a modern front, with Corinthian colonnade, has been added, so as to give the building a civic air. On the square in front is a *statue* of Napoleon I., erected 1865. Besides public offices, the building contains

(*a.*) *Le Musée des Tableaux* (open 12 to 4), a collection in which the good paintings bear a small proportion to the mediocre. *Obs.* an ancient elaborate painting of the Virgin amidst Angels and Saints, long supposed to be a work of Hemling's, by a little-known artist, *Gerard David*, of Bruges.—The *Ascension, the predella of an altarpiece, now in the Museum at Lyons, by *Perugino*, brought from Perugia; a copy of Raphael's Madonna di San Sisto; St. Francis in ecstasy, by *Ann. Caracci*; the Plague at Milan, by *Lemonnier of Rouen*; an Ecce Homo, by *Mignard*; Trajan and the Widow, by *Eugène Delacroix*; several others of the modern French School, &c. &c.

(*b.*) The *Bibliothèque publique*, a valuable collection of upwards of 110,000 vols., open every day from 11 to 4, and from 6 to 9, except Sunday and Thursday. Among the 3000 MSS., many richly ornamented with paintings, are the History of the Normans, by William of Jumièges, 11th cent.; a Benedictionary, which belonged to an archbishop of Canterbury; and a missal of the 12th cent. The Gradual of Daniel d'Eaubonne, 17th cent., containing about 200 vignettes and initials, is very beautiful. There is also an interesting collection of *coins* and medals.

**Le Musée des Antiquités* (open daily, 12 to 4, but also accessible to strangers at other times), in the suppressed convent of Ste. Marie, Rue de la République, near its junction with the Boulevard Beauvoisine, from the number and rarity of the curiosities deposited in it, consisting for the most part of voluntary donations, is very interesting, and highly creditable to the administration of the department, by whom it was founded in 1833-4; no stranger should omit to visit it. The following enumeration will give an idea of the nature of the objects preserved here:—The door of the house in which Corneille was born; many Roman and Gaulish tombstones, coffins, &c., dug up at Rouen and other places in the Dépt. de la Seine Inférieure; numerous fragments of Roman sculpture; a large Roman mosaic of Orpheus playing to the wild beasts, discovered in the Forêt de Brotonne; specimens of pottery, glass, mosaics; inscriptions; together with a draped female statue of good

work, but wanting the head, from the Roman theatre, Lillebonne. It is chiefly, however, for works of art and antiquities of the middle ages, and the following period down to the 17th cent., that this museum is entitled to attention.

The windows, 15 in number, by which the gallery is lighted, are all filled with painted *glass* derived from suppressed convents, churches, &c., forming a chronological series from the 13th to the 17th cents.; very valuable and interesting, as showing the progress of the art. The most remarkable are those from the Church of St. Eloi, Rouen, 16th cent.; the miracle of St. Nicholas, from St. Godard (first half of 16th cent.), very fine. There is no collection of glass painting equal to this in France or England.

The *charters* and other ancient MSS. have been removed to the Préfecture, and cannot now be seen. They contained autographs of remarkable persons—among them, William the Conqueror's mark, a cross (he could not write); and the signatures of our other Norman dukes and kings, including Henry I. and Richard Cœur de Lion.

The shrine of St. Sever, which once contained the relics of that saint, formerly in the cathedral, is in the shape of a Gothic chapel, with silver statues of saints in niches round it. It is of oak, covered with copper plates gilt and silvered, and is an elegant piece of workmanship of the end of the 12th cent.: it has been restored. A crucifix, carved in stone, 16th cent.: at the foot of the cross the holy women; on the opposite side the Virgin and Child. Many other specimens of sculpture, of the 15th, 16th, and 17th cents., in stone and wood, from religious edifices: 5 bas-reliefs of the Last Judgment, in marble, from the Church of St. Denis-sur-Scie; in one, Christ is rescuing souls from the jaws of hell. Many capitals of Gothic columns richly sculptured.

An extensive collection of coins and medals; Roman, Gallo-Roman, French Norman, &c.

The *Musée Céramique* here is a good collection of porcelain, faïences, both Italian and French pottery, &c., but particularly rich in specimens of the manufacture of Rouen.

Casts from the bas-reliefs of the Hôtel du Bourgthéroude, representing the interview of the Field of the Cloth of Gold between Henry VIII. and Francis I. A small collection of arms and armour; among them will be found the coat of mail of Enguerrand de Marigny, from the Church of Ecouis: also several early cannon and wall pieces, ancient furniture, cabinets.

A fragment of the famous bell George d'Amboise, which, at the Revolution, was melted into cannon and sou-pieces, bearing the legend "monument de vanité, détruit pour l'utilité, l'an II de l'Égalité."

In an adjoining building is a very respectable *Museum of Natural History*.

The amateur of stained glass should not omit to visit the churches of *St. Godard*, containing two windows 32 ft. high and 12 wide, and *St. Patrice*, near the Jardin de Solferino, where there are many more of still greater beauty, executed in the 16th cent. The architecture of these two churches is not remarkable; they are of very late Gothic.

The *Church of St. Vincent* has an exquisite Gothic porch, and fine painted glass.

The desecrated *Church of St. Laurent*, dating from the 15th cent., in the Rue de l'Hôtel de Ville, deserves a visit.

St. Gervais, near the rly. stat., is reputed the oldest ch. in Rouen, and one of the earliest Christian monuments in France. The church was rebuilt, and the only part remaining is the circular E. end in the earliest Norman style, but some of the pillars let into the wall, and too short to support the roof, have classic capitals. Beneath it is a *crypt*, simple and unadorned, exhibiting marks of construction as old probably as the 4th cent., in the courses of Roman tiles between the layers of rough masonry. The two low arched recesses in the walls are said to have been the graves of St. Mello and St. Avitien, the first archbishop of Rouen.

William the Conqueror, tortured by the injury he had received at the cruel sack and burning of Mantes, repaired to the retired priory of St. Gervais to die. Deserted by his own sons when the breath was scarcely out of his body, forsaken by friends and courtiers, and plundered by his servants, his body remained stripped and uncared for, until the pity and charity of an unknown knight in the neighbourhood provided the funds necessary for the funeral, and himself escorted the body to its last resting-place at Caen.

Previous to the Revolution there were 36 churches in Rouen, there are now scarcely half the number: many have been converted into warehouses and the like.

The **Palais de Justice* (M. H.) is a very interesting specimen of civic Gothic architecture, which may vie with some of the town-halls of the Low Countries. (apply to the Concièrge, 1 fr.). Reared at a time (the reign of Louis XII.) when the style had become fantastic in its forms and exuberant in its adornments, it yet displays so much originality and magnificence, that it is hard to condemn it for a want of taste and purity. It has been repaired and completed with a second wing in a very judicious manner. The façade is decorated with all the ornament which the fertile resources of the architect afforded; the square-headed windows are set within delicate garlands of stone; the buttresses are studded with niches and crowned by pinnacles; and the lofty dormer windows, rising against the high-pitched roof, are surmounted by canopies of delicate open work, with pinnacles and statues, many of them executed by first-rate artists.

It lines 3 sides of a square; the wing on the l. is the *Salle des Procureurs*, built 1493, as a sort of exchange for native and foreign merchants, to meet in. It is a large and handsome hall, with an open roof, like a ship's hull reversed, 160 ft. long and 50 ft. high—a sort of Westminster Hall in miniature, and now serving for the same purposes. One gable is of the 13th cent., part of an earlier building. The body of the building in the centre was raised 6 years later by Louis XII. for the *Cour d'Echiquier* of Normandy, the ancient supreme tribunal of the duchy, at least as old as the time of William the Conqueror, for which the name of parliament was substituted in 1515 by Francis I.

The chamber in which the parliament of Normandy met is now the *Salle des Assises*. It has a carved roof of black oak, set off with gold; but the elegant pendants which hung from it have been removed, and the wainscoting, painted over with arabesques and old mottoes reminding judges of their duties, has been taken down or effaced by whitewash. The little room in the tourelle will be worth a visit. In the new buildings are numerous courts of justice, &c., on a very handsome and convenient scale.

Behind the Palais is a large building, formerly the residence of the President of the Parliament, now used for the sittings of the Supreme Court.

The **Rue de la Grosse Horloge*, not far from the Palais de Justice, was previous to the demolitions of 1860 one of the most picturesque in Rouen, and is so called from the antique clock gate-house, built 1517, by which it is spanned, adjoining the tower of the Beffroi (1389), where the curfew is still tolled every evening.

The old house near the S.W. corner of the *Place* W. of the Cathedral was formerly the *Bureau des Finances*, and has been restored by a club, which occupies a part of it.

The *Place de la Pucelle*, in the Rue St. Eloy, not far from the Quai du Havre, serves to record the fate of the heroic and unfortunate Jeanne d'Arc, the deliverer of her country, and the terror of the English, who was burned alive here as a sorceress 1431, on the spot marked by the contemptible modern statue placed upon a pump, which bears her name, but the outward aspect of Bellona! Her ashes were collected by the public executioner, and cast into the Seine, by order of the Cardinal of Winchester. He and other prelates

were spectators of her execution; and some of them, unmoved by her sufferings, even interrupted the priest who was confessing her, by their impatience, exclaiming, "Now, priest, do you mean to make us dine here?" After she was bound to the stake, and while the flames were rising around her, she begged her confessor to hold aloft the cross, that she might still behold the sacred emblem above the smoke; and she died expressing her conviction of the truth of her mission, and calling on the name of Jesus. The cruelty exercised upon this simple and gentle maiden (for in all her battles she never killed an enemy, and was always intent on preventing the effusion of blood) is a disgrace to the annals of England. In prison she was subjected to insult, insidious treachery, and even outrage; at her trial, in the chapel of the castle, she stood alone without counsel or adviser, browbeaten by her inhuman and bloodthirsty judges, yet baffling their cunning and sophistry by her plain straightforward answers.

But one of the saddest circumstances connected with the death of the forlorn maiden of Domrémy was, that her most active enemies and eventual betrayers were *her own countrymen*: the Bishop of Beauvais, her unjust judge, her accuser, and the false priest who was introduced into her cell on the pretence of friendship as a spy to betray her secrets, were Frenchmen. Her own countrymen allowed her to be made prisoner at Compiègne without an attempt to defend or rescue her; it was they who sold her to the English; and Charles VII., her king, who owed his country and his throne to her enthusiasm, appears neither to have cared for nor remembered the heroine of Orleans, from the hour when she fell into the hands of the English. He certainly neither attempted to ransom her, nor did he *protest* against her trial.*

It was not until 24 years after her death that a papal bull proclaimed her innocence; and a cross was raised by her own countrymen, once more become masters of Rouen, on the spot where she had been bound to the stake.

On one side of the Place de la Pucelle, within a short distance of the statue, is an ancient mansion, called (M. H.) **Hôtel du Bourgthéroude*, constructed at the end of the 15th and beginning of the 16th cent., by William le Roux, seigneur of Bourgthéroude, nearly at the same period as the Palais de Justice. It is built round a court, and its inner wall is ornamented with a series of bas-reliefs on tablets of marble, representing the interview of the Cloth of Gold, and the procession of the two kings Henry VIII. and Francis I., attended by their suite, among whom Cardinal Wolsey is conspicuous. Above these are other sculptures of allegorical figures: the elegant hexagonal tower is decorated with pastoral and other subjects.

There are several Gothic fountains in various parts of the city:—*La Croix de Pierre* resembles in form Waltham Cross: it was erected in 1500, by Card. d'Amboise, and stands in the Carrefour St. Vivien. *La Fontaine de la Crosse* is a low Gothic structure of the 15th cent., elegantly adorned with tracery. *La Fontaine de Lisieux*, Rue de la Savonnerie (1518), is of good design.

Fine *old houses* of timber and plaster, corner of Rue de la Tuille, 1st half of 15th cent.; house in Rue Malpalu, end of 15th cent.; remains of abbey of St. Amand, 15th cent. In the Rue Jeanne d'Arc, corner of Rue aux Ours, is the *tower* of the demolished ch. of St. André, and the façade of a house removed from the Rue de la Grosse Horloge.

The house in which "Le grand *Corneille*" (Pierre) was born (1606), the most illustrious of the natives of Rouen, stood until 1861 in Rue de la Pie, No. 4; a *statue* of him (by David d'Angers) has been erected by his fellow-citizens on the stone bridge. *Fontenelle*, his nephew, author of the 'Plurality of Worlds,' resided at No. 132-134 in the Rue des Bons Enfans. The musical composer *Boieldieu* was also born, 1775, at No. 61, Rue aux Ours; the town has raised a *statue*

* Lord Mahon's memoir of Jeanne d'Arc in the 'Colonial Library.'

(by Dantan) to him on the Quay facing the Bourse.

The great *Lord Chancellor Clarendon* died here, in banishment, in 1674.

The Crèches—asylums for infant children while their parents are at work—may be seen here in full operation, and deserve a visit.

In the Rue Morand, just within the Boulevard, forming part of an Ursuline convent, is the *Donjon tower*, restored from the designs of Viollet-le-Duc, with walls 13 ft. thick, the only part remaining, of the old Château built in 1205 by Philippe Auguste. Jeanne d'Arc is said to have been imprisoned in it.

The very old and curious edifice called La Haute Vieille Tour, situated between the cathedral and the Quai, appropriated to the purpose of a cloth-hall for the sale of the manufactures of Rouen, occupies the site, and seems to have formed part, of the ancient palace and Vieille Tour, in which King John is said to have imprisoned and finally murdered his nephew Prince Arthur.

On the St. Sever side, near the rly. stat., and close to the stone bridge, is the Cours la Reine, or *Grand Cours*, a fine avenue and promenade along the banks of the Seine, and beyond it are wide meadows, in which the races are held.

Le Jardin de Solferino, a new public garden in the Rue de l'Hôtel de Ville, is prettily laid out on the site occupied formerly by some of the worst streets of the town. The work was commenced in 1864, and the condition and size of the trees prove the skill of the French in transplanting.

Persons who take an interest in horticulture and arboriculture should visit "Le Jardin des Plantes."

Bridges.—The first bridge over the Seine here was built (1167) by Queen Matilda, daughter of Henry I.; it stood till the middle of the 15th cent., when it was destroyed, and one of boats substituted for it. In 1829 the upper bridge of stone was completed, and in 1836 that of boats was finally replaced by a suspension one 650 ft. long. An opening is left in the centre, between the supporting piers, under a lofty cast-iron arch rising 82 ft. above the river, to allow masted vessels to pass.

The *cotton manufactures* of Rouen are of such extent and importance as to render it the Manchester of France; they are greatly promoted by 3 small streams—the Robec, the Aubette, and the Reuelle. A particular kind of striped and chequed stuff is called *Rouennerie* (toiles peintes, rayées, et à carreaux), because originally and more especially manufactured here. Spinning and weaving mills, dye-works, especially of Turkey red, printing and bleaching works, are most plentifully distributed, not only through town and suburbs, but over the adjacent country in a circuit of many miles, employing, on a moderate computation, 50,000 persons. The largest cotton mill belongs to M. Pouyer-Quertier. It was designed by Fairbairn, and has 60,000 spindles.

English Church Service, in the Eng. ch. in the Faubourg at Sotteville, at 10.30 on Sundays; and at 3.30 in the French Reformed ch., Place Ste. Eloy.

At the *shop of Lebrument, bookseller*, No. 11, Rue Jeanne d'Arc, the traveller may provide himself with many interesting works relating to the antiquities of Normandy, with views and maps.

Rouen is celebrated for its bonbons and sucre de pomme.

The Germans under Manteuffel occupied this town Dec. 5, 1870.

British Vice-Consul, Rue Stanislas Girardin.

Steamboats to Havre every second day between June and September, several times a day to Elbeuf in 2 hrs., starting from Quai Napoléon.

Railways to Havre and Dieppe, Stat. Rue Verte; to Paris; to Orleans, Evreux, Caen, Cherbourg, &c.; to Amiens, by Neufchâtel, Forges, &c., from the Stat. in the Faubourg de Martainville.

Walks and Excursions.

The **Mont Ste. Catherine*, the chalk hill on the E. of the city, rising above

the Seine and the road to Paris, affords the best distant and panoramic view of Rouen, and will well repay the fatigue of those who are not afraid to face a steep ascent, 380 ft. high, which may be mastered in half an hour, starting from the extremity of the Cours de Paris (omnibuses to the top every ½ hour). The entire mass of the town is spread out below you, surmounted by engine chimneys mixed with spires, sending out its long lines of houses and factories up the hill-sides and into the neighbouring industrious valleys, uniting it with distant villages; the noble spires of the cathedral and of St. Ouen rising out of the midst, the winding and sparkling river Seine, spanned by its 2 bridges and crowded with shipping, the Railway also crossing the river, and then pursuing its mole-like course, half above, half under ground, give a pleasing variety to the landscape. The marks of active industry are everywhere apparent, the bleach-fields strewn with white webs, the stream-courses marked by rows of factories and tall chimneys, the nooks in the hill-sides choked with villages.

All along the top of the mount are traces of ditches and foundations of bastions, part of the strong *Fort* occupied by the Marquis Villars and the soldiers of the League during the siege of 1591, captured by Henri IV., and dismantled by him in compliance with the request of the citizens, with the memorable words, that "he desired no fortress but the hearts of his subjects." This post was taken by assault, chiefly through the bravery of Henri's English allies under the Earl of Essex, who challenged Villars to maintain, in single combat, on horse or foot, in armour or doublet, that his cause was the better and his mistress the fairer.

Scarcely inferior to that from Ste. Catherine is the view from *N. D. de Bonsecours*, much resorted to by pilgrims, 2 m. out of the town (2-horse carriage, 5 frs.). A splendid modern Gothic *Ch.*, gorgeously painted and gilt internally, and adorned by fine painted windows, was built 1854 to replace the ancient chapel. The lower part of the walls is covered with ex-voto tablets, and the ch. and the view from it well deserve a visit.

It will be worth while to drive out to the château of *Canteleu*, on the road to Caudebec (Rte. 12), on account of its beautiful view.

A more distant excursion, which will occupy 1 day very agreeably, may be made to *Château Gaillard*, near Andelys (Rte. 11). Travellers can take the Rly. as far as St. Pierre, where a diligence meets the train to convey passengers to (7 m.) Andelys, which is close to the château. The distance by road from St. Pierre is rather more than from Gaillon, but it is usually preferred.

There are many interesting monuments of architecture in the vicinity of Rouen, among them the *Chapelle de St. Julien*, 3 or 4 m. S.W., on the l. bank of the Seine (Rte. 12); *St. George Boscherville*, 9 m., on the road to Havre (Rte. 13).

Darnétal, about 3 m. from Rouen, a stat. on rly. from Rouen to Amiens (Rte. 5), situated in a fertile valley, and crowded with factories, has a fine Gothic ch., called *Long Paon*, and the church-tower of *Carville*.

La Bouille (see Rte 12) a very pretty spot about 15 m. below Rouen (steamers several times a day; good restaurant near landing). On fête-days the caverns and quarries near this place are visited by large numbers of people. Severe fighting between the advancing Germans and retreating French occurred here in Dec. 1870.

There is a fine view from the road to Dieppe; in fact, the hills and valleys in the neighbourhood of Rouen offer a succession of fine prospects and delightful walks in any direction.

ROUTE 9.

PARIS TO ST.-GERMAIN—ROAD OR RAIL.

[By *Road.*

The carriage-road from Paris to St.-Germain commences at the *Arc de Triomphe de l'Étoile*, the largest triumphal arch in the world, and the finest entrance into the French capital. Yet the eye scarcely appreciates its vastness: few would suspect that it is nearly as wide and lofty as the façade of Notre Dame, or that the width of the arch equals that of its nave. The road skirts on the l. the Bois de Boulogne.

A cross-road, called Chemin de la Révolte, leading from Neuilly to St.-Denis, branches off on the rt.: near the entrance of it, at Sablonville, occurred the melancholy death of the Duc d'Orléans, who was killed in jumping out of his carriage, of which the horses had run away. An elegant Byzantine *Chapel* has been built on the site of the house in which he breathed his last: it is dedicated to St. Ferdinand, and is in the form of a Greek cross. It contains a monumental cenotaph, the effigy of the prince in his uniform reclining on a bed, by M. de Triquety. On two pedestals on either side are angels, one in prayer, the other offering up the tears of the survivors to heaven, displaying exquisite beauty and refinement of sentiment, one of the last works of his sister the Princess Marie d'Orléans. The painted windows, representing saints, were executed at Sèvres, from Ingres' designs, now in the museum at the Luxembourg.

At *Neuilly* the road crosses the Seine by the bridge of 5 arches, each of 120 ft. span, the masterpiece of the great civil engineer Perronet, built 1772. The park of Neuilly, now partly built over, extends for some distance down the rt. bank of the Seine. On the l. bank is seen the village and large barrack of *Courbevoie*. From here the road, at first straight, bends to the l., crosses the Versailles Rail (rive droite), and then, skirting Mt. Valérien on l., and the villages of Nanterre and Rueil on rt., runs along the enclosing wall of Malmaison for some distance, and, soon after reaching the l. bank of the Seine, passes *La Chaussée*, and *Marly la Machine*, so called from the cumbrous pile of wooden scaffolding and wheels constructed to raise the water of the Seine 300 ft. to supply Versailles, but now partly replaced by steam-engines. The *Aqueduct* of 36 arches, by which the water is conveyed, is a conspicuous object rising against the hill. The *Château de Marly*, built by Mansard for Louis XIV., was destroyed at the Revolution, having been purchased by speculators who pulled it down to sell the materials. St. Simon, describing its construction, relates that whole forests of full-grown trees were brought from Compiègne, ⅓ths of which died and were replaced by others; large tracts of wood were suddenly converted into sheets of water, and again into shady groves; all to adorn a small villa in a contracted valley without view, in which Louis might pass 3 or 4 nights in the course of the year.

The pavilion of *Luciennes*, on the brow of the hill above Marly, was the last residence of Madame du Barry, the favourite of Louis XV. A steep ascent leads to the Place du Château at St.-Germain-en-Laye (see below).]

By Rail.—Paris to St.-Germain.

Distance, 13 m.; *time*, ½ hr.; *trains* every hour.

Terminus in Rue St. Lazare.

The first part of this line as far as 3 m. *Asnières* Stat. is the same as the Rouen Rly. (Rte. 8).

4 m. *Nanterre* Stat., a large village, the birthplace of St. Geneviève, the patron saint of Paris, who, according to the legend, preserved it by her prayers from the invasion of Attila. Nanterre is famed for a certain kind of pastry sold in the streets of Paris, as *Gateaux de Nanterre*.

The *Church* on the height of the citadel of Mont Valérien to the l. contains numerous relics: among them a fragment of the true Cross (!)—the Calvary, and stations leading to it, have attracted pilgrims for centuries. Madame de Genlis, the preceptress of Louis-Philippe, was buried in the cemetery. Beyond here the aqueduct of Marly and château of St.-Germain are seen in the distance.

2 m. *Rueil* Stat. Here Card. Richelieu had a magnificent residence. The large barrack on the l. was occupied in the time of the elder Bourbons by the Swiss guard. In the modern Renaissance village *Church*, originally built 1584, and decorated with a portico at the cost of Cardinal Richelieu, from the designs of Lemercier, is buried the Empress Josephine. A simple monument bearing her statue kneeling, by Cartellier, has been erected by her children, Prince Eugène, Viceroy of Italy, and Hortense Beauharnais, Queen of Holland, mother of the late Emp. Napoleon III., who also lies here by the side of her mother. A kneeling veiled statue, by Bartolini, was erected to her memory, 1846, by her son, and bears the inscription "A la Reine Hortense, le Prince Louis Bonaparte." Josephine died, May 1814, at her favourite villa, 2 m. from Rueil (tramway), *Malmaison*. Her pleasure-grounds have changed owners several times; her conservatory and menageries, in which she took so much delight, and the Swiss dairy and Merino pasturages, are swept away. The place seems to have owed its charms chiefly to art, the soil being sterile. It was some time the property of Queen Christina of Spain, but the late Emp. Napoleon III. bought it in 1861, and partially restored it. Napoleon I. spent 5 days here in June 1815, between his second abdication and his departure for Rochefort, after having been sent out of Paris by Fouché and the provisional government.

The Seine is crossed for the second time shortly before arriving at

2 m. *Chatou* Stat., by 2 bridges resting on an island which here divides the river. The village of Chatou lies on the rt. hand of the rly. and rt. bank of the Seine.

On leaving Chatou the rly. soon enters the Forest of *Vésinet*, which extends from one reach of the Seine to the other; on this sandy flat several handsome villas have been built of late years, especially around

1 m. *Vésinet* Stat.

1 m. *Le Pecq* Stat., near the Seine, also an agglomeration of country residences. The river is here again crossed by 2 handsome iron bridges, from which the rly. is carried up a steep incline, including a viaduct of 4 arches leading to 2 tunnels, on emerging from which we reach

1½ m. **St.-Germain-en-Laye** Stat. *Inns:* H. du Prince de Galles, fair, near the Rly.; Pavillon de Henri IV., both hotel (good) and restaurant; H. Pavillon Louis XIV.

This quiet town of 23,000 Inhab. is indebted for its foundation, like Versailles, to the *Palace* (close to the Rly. Stat.) which with the *forest* are the attractions for visitors. There was a castle here from a very remote period, and until Versailles was built it was a favourite residence of Francis I., Henri II., and Henri IV. It was abandoned by Louis XIV., because the views from its windows embraced the church of St. Denis, the burial-place of his race. It was assigned by him to James II. of England as his residence, and here that unfortunate sovereign kept his melancholy and poverty-stricken Court. This celebrated château, after having successively been converted into barracks and a military prison, had been for some years abandoned, when the late Emperor Napoleon III. relieved the old Donjon from the brickwork casing of Louis XIV., and converted it into a *Museum of Pre-historic Gaulish and Roman Remains*, and it is now the most extensive collection in France. It includes cave-products from Dépt. Dordogne, engraved bones, flint implements; remains from Carnac (Brittany), from Abbeville (M. Boucher de Perthes); surveys to illustrate the state of Gaul in the time of Julius Cæsar, &c. Some Northern antiquities were the gift of the

King of Denmark. It is open free. Henry IV. built another palace at the end of the terrace, of which nothing now remains but a sort of pavilion occupied by a restaurant, in which it is said Louis XIV. was born. The *Parterre* is a pretty garden, with flower-beds (the roses in the spring and summer are particularly fine and varied), shady walks, &c.: *Entrance* close to the station on l. Adjoining is the **Terrasse*, a magnificent walk or drive 1½ m. (2400 mètres) long, and 115 ft. wide (constructed by Le Notre), supported on one side by a wall, shaded on the other by trees, and commanding a very fine view of the plain of Paris. At the back of the Terrasse **the Forest* extends over 10,000 acres. It is one of the largest in France, having a circuit of 21 m., and occupies a promontory formed by a sweeping bend of the river Seine. It is intersected by roads offering agreeable rides and walks in all directions, and by the Rouen Rly. In the midst of it is the Pavillon de la Meute (Dog-kennel), begun by Francis I. Deer, roes, and wild-boars are found in the remoter parts. The trees do not live much beyond 80 or 90 years. The best way of seeing the forest will be to hire a carriage for a drive—2 frs. an hour 1 horse; 2 frs. 50 c. 2 horses.

In the first chapel on rt. in the parish *Ch.* is a monument to James II. of England, erected by George IV. *English Protestant Service* on Sundays at 11½ and 4.

The name of St.-Germain-en-Laye comes from a chapel and monastery of St. Germanus, built in the reign of King Robert, in the midst of the forest then called *Silva Ledia*.

ROUTE 10.

PARIS TO ROUEN, BY MAGNY.

This was formerly one of the principal roads, but is now deserted by travellers.

Paris to Pontoise, by rail. (Rte. 3A.)

Pontoise to Rouen 87 kil. = 54 m. From Pontoise the road is uninteresting as far as

9 m. *Bord'haut*, a hamlet dependent on the village of de Vigny, whose fine old *Castle*, flanked by round towers, topped with extinguisher roofs, and surrounded by a moat, stands on the l. of the road. It was built by Cardinal d'Amboise, minister of Louis XII., and is a picturesque specimen of domestic architecture of the beginning of the 16th cent.

8 m. *Magny* Stat. (*Inn:* H. Grand Cerf.) In the pretty *Church*, in the latest Gothic, passing into the Italian style, is a monument, consisting of 3 marble statues kneeling, to the memory of the family of Villerond (date 1617); another in bas-relief recording the virtues of M. Dubuisson, pastor of the parish, and a richly ornamented canopy, carved, and bearing statues, which covers the baptismal font. [Rly. to 8 m. *Chars* Junct. Stat. (Rte. 11A.)]

We now enter the district anciently called *le Vexin*. The little river Epte divided the French from the Norman Vexin, and formed the boundary of Normandy. It is crossed at St. Clair-sur-Epte, whose ruined *Castle*, a mixture of late Norman and early pointed, is reputed the scene of the interview between Charles the Simple and Rollo; when the barbarian conqueror, called upon to do homage for the fertile province of Normandy, which he had in fact wrung from the weakness of the Frankish king, instead of kneeling to kiss the king's foot, seized the royal leg, and without bending carried it to his mouth, so as to upset the monarch from his seat, amidst the laughter of the rude warriors of the north.

The Epte is crossed on quitting St. Clair.

11 m. *Thilliers-en-Vexin*, in the midst of a plain of rich corn-land. Near the middle of this stage the road passes, at some distance on the rt., a village called Hacqueville, insignificant in itself, but deserving mention as the birthplace of *Mark Isambart Brunel*, the great engineer of the Thames Tunnel.

10 m. *Ecouis* contains a fine Gothic *Church*, on the plan of a Greek cross, founded by Enguerrand de Marigny, the high treasurer of Philippe le Bel, unjustly condemned to death without trial at the instigation of the succeeding king's uncle, Charles of Valois, and hung on the robbers' gibbet of Montfaucon. His monument, set up in this church at a time when his innocence and worth were acknowledged, was destroyed at the Revolution. That of his brother, Archbishop of Rouen, is still surmounted by his effigy in white marble. He went as ambassador to Edward III. in 1342. There are several tombstones in the choir.

A rapid ascent and descent carries the road across the industrious and picturesque vale of the Andelle, in the midst of which is

6 m. *Fleury-sur-Andelle.* About 10 m. N.E. of this, and 2 from Lyons la Forêt, are the ruins of the *Abbey of Mortemer*, begun 1154 by Henry II. of England. The church has been pulled down; but some of the conventual buildings in the style of transition from round to pointed — including a fine *chapter-house* (date 1174)—remain.

8 m. *La Forge Féret.*

From the brow of the steep hill leading down through deep cuttings into Rouen, a fine view is obtained of that city and the Seine.

7 m. ROUEN (Rte. 8).

ROUTE 11.

THE SEINE, A.—ST.-GERMAIN TO ROUEN.

As there are no longer passenger-steamers since the completion of the railway, there is no means of performing the voyage down the Seine with any degree of comfort; indeed, most of the remarkable sites near it can be more conveniently reached from the rly. stations, as La Roche Guyon from Bonnières, Château Gaillard and Les Andelys from Gaillon, &c.

The scenery of the Seine (*Sequăna*, —from the Celtic *seach*, devious, and *an*, water) is very pleasing, almost meriting the epithet "beautiful;" its banks are abundantly studded with towns, villages, and châteaux, and are alternately wooded, or rise in round bare hills, sometimes presenting escarpments to the river, which, from the white colour of the chalk, are not altogether picturesque. There are not many *old* castles — Château Gaillard, however, is an imposing and interesting ruin, and perhaps the finest feature in the voyage. The number of islands in the river between Paris and Rouen is said to be 300. The circuitous windings of the river prolong the distance from Pecq to Rouen to 141 m., while by rly. it is only 71 m. The most interesting objects on the river are described in Rte. 8.

The Ile Belle, opposite Meulan, is reputed the prettiest in its whole course.

rt., before reaching Vernon, is *La Roche Guyon* (5 m. from Bonnières Stat.), one of the largest châteaux on the Seine, and one of the most striking objects, a structure of different ages, part modern, part Gothic, situated at the base of a rock of chalk, which has been escarped artificially to make room for it. The kitchen, vaults, cellars, &c., are excavated in the rock, with merely fronts of brick. The oldest part is the tower on the eminence above, which is of the original work (12th cent.) except the upper part. It commands the country far and near, and communicates with the château by long flights of steps cut in the hill-side. On the summit of the hill is a large reservoir for water, excavated out of the rock. The château has been long the property of the La Rochefoucauld family; it now belongs to the Duke of La Rochefoucaut-Liancourt. The bourg adjoining the castle has a handsome Gothic ch. "The houses of the poor people here, as on the Loire in Touraine, are burrowed into the chalk, and have a singular appearance; here are 2 streets of them, one above another." — *A. Young.* A *Suspension-*

Bridge, of 656 ft. between the piers, has been thrown across the Seine here.

rt. *Limetz*, a village at a little distance from the river, nearly marks the situation of the embouchure of the Epte, a small stream, which once formed the boundary or *limit* of Normandy. Charles the Simple, in 911, was fain to offer to the Norman Rollo all the territory extending from this streamlet to the sea, and with it his fair daughter Gisela, to arrest the exterminating inroads of the warriors of the North. The offer was accepted; and Neustria, receiving the name of its conquerors, became *Normandy*.

rt. The hills which border the river, with nearly precipitous cliffs, have a singularly wavy outline, their curved tops being saddled, as it were, with green turf, while between them dry valleys or coombes open out. They rise in the form of an amphitheatre, encircling an extensive plain. Nearly at the centre of the curve which the Seine here describes, on the summit of a commanding chalk cliff, rises

rt. **Château Gaillard**, a most picturesque ruin and interesting object, both from its situation and associations. Immediately below its frowning antique towers and crumbling crags, a light and convenient wire suspension-bridge has been thrown over the river.

The castle was begun and finished in one year by King Richard Cœur de Lion, in defiance of his rival Philippe Augustus, and in the face of the treaty of Louviers, by which he had bound himself not to fortify Andelys, the little town on the river-side. He thus broke it in substance, while he kept to the letter. Exulting in his stronghold, as he first looked down from its commanding battlements on the defenceless town and exposed river below him, he named it, in the pride of his heart, his "Saucy Castle." Even now that it is reduced to a mouldering ruin, one cannot gaze up to its towering battlements, or down from them upon the sunny landscape below, without sharing in this feeling of exultation of the fierce soldier-king, in the possession of a stronghold which enabled him to intercept the navigation of the Seine between Paris and the capital of Normandy, to separate the French king's forts of Vernon and Gisors, and overawe the country around with his armed bands. The eminence on which it stands projects forward, isolated from the neighbouring hills on all sides but one, where it is connected by a narrow tongue. This is cut through by a deep fosse skirting the outer line of wall. On all the other sides steep escarpments render the height inaccessible; towards the river, indeed, it presents a vertical precipice. Yet even along the edge of the cliff tall flanking towers were raised, some of which have long since toppled over, while others are tottering to their fall. But these were only the outworks; within them rose a citadel of singular form and strength,—a huge irregular circle or drum tower, having a wavy surface alternately projecting and receding, like a frustum of a fluted column. The circle is broken by the insertion of a round tower shaped externally like a dice-box on the side overhanging the Seine. This is the *Donjon*, and contained the royal apartments; its walls are 14 or 15 ft. thick. The beauty of the masonry is remarkable, so is also the total absence of moulding or ornament. The whole building was for defence alone. A second deep fosse surrounds this citadel, cut in the chalk rock, here interspersed with flints which were used in the building, and thus it served at once as quarry and defence. Extensive caverns, supported by piers of the rock left standing, branch off from one side of this fosse; they probably were used as stables. The original gateway into the citadel is no longer accessible, but entrance may be gained by clambering through a small sallyport in the corner. It is suggested that only a small part of the existing ruins belonged to the castle of King Richard. At his death Philippe Augustus, waging war as the champion of Prince Arthur with John, laid siege to this castle. It was bravely defended by Roger de Lacy for 6 months, when he was finally starved into surrender. Château Gaillard continued to be the chief bulwark of Normandy down to 1606, when Henri IV. demolished it

along with other castles as dangerous to the Royal authority. In 1314 two frail queens were immured within its walls, and one of them, Marguerite de Bourgogne (heroine of la Tour de Nesle), wife of Louis X., was strangled here by order of her husband. David Bruce found an asylum here 1334, when an exile from Scotland, the castle having been ceded to him by Philippe of Valois. With a small garrison of 120 men it resisted for 16 months the forces of Henry V., and yielded at length because cut off from a supply of water by the wearing out of the ropes by which the buckets were let down into the well!

Against the face of the cliff above the Seine rises a curious pigeon-house tower, lined with cells for the pigeons, a common appendage to ancient fortresses. A chapel of recent date has been excavated in the rock near it.

Below the castle rock is the town of *Le Petit Andely*. It has a good church, 13th cent. The large and conspicuous red building, surmounted by a dome at the lower end, is a *Hospital* founded by the Duc de Penthièvre.

Le Grand Andely (*Inn:* H. Cerf, comfortable, fair prices; the house is a picturesque specimen of domestic Gothic architecture; it was the residence of an Archbishop of Rouen, Pierre Harley, temp. Henri IV.). This town of 5161 Inhab., lies about 1 m. inland from the Seine. The *Gothic ch.* is a large, well proportioned and preserved building of last half of 13th cent.: *obs.* recessed portal at W. end. The ch. contains fine painted glass, and a rude representation of the neighbouring Château Gaillard carved in stone. It has many rich details, including a fine oriel. Turnebus, the Greek commentator, was a native of Andelys. The hamlet Villers, 3½ m. from this, was the birthplace (1594) of *Nicolas Poussin*, the painter; but the humble cottage in which he was born no longer exists. A monument has been set up to his memory (1851) in the market-place of Great Andelys. In the *Mairie* is a picture by him—Coriolanus among the Volsci, receiving his mother and wife. *La Fontaine de Ste. Clothilde* alone recalls to mind the monastery founded here by the first Christian queen of France. It is swept away, but the water of the well is believed by the peasantry to retain the virtues imparted to it by the royal saint, and to cure their children of stomachaches.

Andelys is about 6 m. from the Stat. of Gaillon, to which there are public conveyances (Rte. 8). There is a direct post-road to Rouen by Pont St. Pierre.

The Seine, leaving behind the white crags and towering ruins of Château Gaillard, makes a wide sweep along the base of a series of chalk cliffs. This curve of the river is 18 m. long, while the direct distance from (rt.) Thuit to the mouth of the Andelle is only 8. There is no place worth notice on the Seine between these two points. The railway emerges from a tunnel near (rt.) Venables, and skirts the river.

rt. The pretty and industrious valley of the Andelle opens out into the Seine at the foot of a green hill, "the last of a long promontory," bearing the name of *Côte des Deux Amans*. It is the scene of the old romantic *Lay* of Mary of France—of the young lover who was to marry the mistress of his heart, a king's daughter, provided he could carry her to the top of the hill without stopping to rest. He fell dead under his precious burthen, exhausted with the exertion, just as he reached the summit; at which the king's daughter died of a broken heart, and was buried in the same grave with him. The hardhearted father, who had caused this catastrophe by imposing such cruel conditions, struck with remorse, founded on the spot where it occurred a convent whose existence is traced to an early period, but the building now standing on the top of the hill is not older than 1685. A bridge has been thrown across for the rly. a little above the influx of

l. The Eure, from which the dépt. is named, a considerable river, on which stands Louviers (Rte. 8). The Eure falls into the Seine 2½ m. above

l. *Pont de l'Arche* (Stat. on Rly., see Rte. 8). This town is only 12 m. from Rouen; whilst, in consequence of several serpentine bends, the distance

by water is 33. The Seine abounds in islands in this part of its course, which increase the intricacies of the navigation.

l. A little below the bridge stand the remains of the Abbey of *Bon Port*, consisting of the refectory (13th cent.), and another monastic edifice, the ch. being quite destroyed. It was founded 1190 by Richard Cœur de Lion, in gratitude for his escape from drowning in the Seine, into which he had plunged while pursuing a stag. On reaching the bank, after a severe struggle with the current, he called the spot "bon port," and vowed to build a ch. The approach to the town of Elbeuf is marked by the number of tall chimneys, and the many floating arks moored in the midst of the river, used for washing wool and cloths.

l. **Elbeuf** (*Inn:* H. de l'Europe, H. d'Elbeuf), Pop. 22,900, is exclusively a manufacturing town (on rly. from Oissel to Serquigny; see Rts. 8 and 25); and, if Rouen has any claim to be compared to Manchester, it may be called a French Leeds, as one of the principal seats of the manufacture of woollen cloths; more than half of its inhabitants and about 20,000 persons in the adjoining communes being weavers, or occupied in other departments of this branch of industry. Its situation on the l. bank of the Seine is advantageous to its prosperity. The wise enactments of the sage Colbert (1669) promoted greatly its already thriving commerce; but the revocation of the Edict of Nantes annulled their good effect, dispersing its industrious artisans, who settled in Leyden, Norwich, and Leicester. The manufactures of Elbeuf did not recover from this check until the events of 1815, relieving France from the competition of Belgium, gave them so decided an impulse that their produce is now threefold greater than it was then. The value of the cloth made here in one year is estimated at more than a million sterling.

The two Gothic *churches* of *St. Étienne* and *St. Jean* contain curious painted glass; in the latter is a window presented by the clothworkers' guild somewhere about 1466, in which various implements of the craft, such as shears and teasels, are introduced.

The working classes are generally industrious and economical, and are consequently far better off than those of Rouen. *Steamers* daily to Rouen.

[Omnibus twice daily (1fr. 50c.) to S. 12 m. *Neubourg*, a town of 2567 Inhab., formerly a strong fortress, besieged and taken by our Henry I. in 1118, and the eldest son (aged 6) of Henry II. was married here in 1160 to Margaret (aged 7), daughter of Louis VII. In 1198 the town was burnt by Jean sans Terre, and subsequently long occupied by the English. The fine Pointed *ch.* has two low towers. A portion still remains of the *château*, in which, in the reign of Louis XIV., the first representation in France of an *opera* was given. The owners of the castle, the Dukes of Harcourt-Beuvron, subsequently removed to, 3 m. farther, the stately *Château of Champ de Bataille.* The chapel has some good monuments. The gardens, theatre, and great gallery deserve notice.]

l. The *Rocks of Orival*, a range of chalk cliffs beginning at Elbeuf, consisting of detached pinnacles and projecting shelves, formed by the hard flint layers inclosed in the rock, present a singular outline of fantastic forms. On a platform half-way up their face a small chapel has found a niche; it is partly excavated in the rock, so are likewise many dwellings around it. One of these needles of chalk, called Roche de Pignon, rises 200 ft. above the river. The Rouen Rly. crosses the river and an island in the midst of it at an oblique angle near Oissel.

rt. From *Oissel*, marked by its spire, to Rouen the river is thickly set with islands covered with rows of tall poplars. Beyond (rt.) Authieux the rt. bank rises in tall chalk cliffs, at the base of which, between them and the Seine, runs the carriage-road to Paris, passing a series of villages and manufactories.

l. *St.-Étienne de Rouvray.* William the Conqueror was hunting in the forest of Rouvray, which still exists

behind this village, when the news was brought him of the death of Edward the Confessor, and of the usurpation of the throne by Harold, his brother-in-law.

ROUEN (Rte. 8).

ROUTE 11A.

PARIS TO DIEPPE, BY PONTOISE, GISORS, GOURNAY, FORGES, AND NEUFCHATEL —RAIL.

	Kil.	Miles.
Paris (St. Lazare Stat.) to		
Pontoise	29	18
Gisors	69	48
Gournay	94	58
Serqueux	119	74
Neufchatel	134	83
Dieppe	168	105

Time, 5¼ to 6¼ hrs.; *trains*, 3 daily.

This direct *Railway* opens a line of communication between Paris and the shores of the Channel, and passes through an important agricultural country. In absolute distance it is 20 m. shorter than that by Rouen and the Valley of the Seine.

The first part, as far as

18 m. *Pontoise* Stat., is described under Rte. 3A.

14 m. *Chars* Junct. Stat. The village is in the valley of the Viosne. Rly. to 8 m. *Magny*, Rte. 10.

8 m. *Chaumont-en-Vexin* Stat., on the top of a hill, from which there is a magnificent view.

5 m. **Gisors** Junct. Stat. (*Buffet*) (*Inns:* H. de l'Ecu, H. des Trois Poissons), an ancient town of 3753 Inhab., prettily situated on the Epte. Its ramparts are converted into agreeable promenades, whose plantations encircle the ruins of its commanding *Castle*, once the bulwark of Normandy on the side of France, and still retaining many interesting characteristics of a feudal fortress. The octagonal Donjon especially, and its inclosure, crowning the top of a high artificial conical mound, are of the most solid construction, and are works of the 12th cent., built by our Henry II. The walls of a dungeon under one of the towers have been curiously carved with a nail by some unfortunate prisoner. At an interview which took place here between Henry and Louis VII., the two monarchs agreed to assume the cross for the recovery of Jerusalem.

The *Ch. of SS. Gervais and Protais* (M. H.) presents a combination of styles, and an abundance of uncouth sculptures: it has a choir built in the 13th cent. by Blanche of Castille (it is said); the nave and remainder of the ch. are of a later period. The grand portal, richly carved, is of the latest style of florid Gothic. This ch. has double aisles. In the Baptistery a sculptured Tree of Jesse. The organ-loft, and an emaciated monumental effigy, both attributed to Jean Goujon, merit notice, and there is some good painted glass in the windows. In the S. aisle is a singular twisted column, surrounded by spiral bands of tracery.

A timber-framed house of picturesque Renaissance style in the Rue des Tanneurs, near the Hôtel de Ville, deserves the attention of the tourist.

[Branch *Rlys.* to Pont de l'Arche and to Vernon, both on the line from Paris to Rouen (Rte. 8), and to Beauvais (Rte. 4).]

From Gisors the rly. follows the valley of the Epte, ascending gradually and passing by numerous villages as far as to

17 m. *Gournay* Junct. Stat. (*Inn:* H. du Nord), a town of 3353 Inhab., celebrated for its butter; it is situated in the district formerly called the Pays de Bray.

The *Church of St. Hildevert* was begun in the 11th cent., but not finished until the 13th, and its W. front, with pointed arches, is perhaps of the latter date. In the interior, very massive round piers support semicircular arches inclining to the horseshoe form. The sculptured ornaments of the capitals are very remarkable for variety of pattern. Herring-bone masonry occurs in the E. end. About 4 m. from Gournay is the *Abbey Church of St. Germer*, as grand and large as a cathedral, of the 12th cent., but going to ruin. It contains an arcaded altar of the same period. Near it is an elegant *chapel*, in the style of

the Sainte Chapelle (1259), well restored, retaining good old glass.

There is some pretty scenery in the valley of the Epte about Gournay. [Branch Rly. 41 m. to *Creil* by *Beauvais* (Rte. 4).] The rly. continues to follow the valley of the Epte to

14 m. *Serqueux* Junct. Stat., on the line from Amiens to Rouen. (See Rte. 5.)

9 m. *Neufchatel-en-Bray* Stat. (*Inn*: H. du Grand Cerf), a town of 3616 Inhab., celebrated for its cream-cheeses, called *Bondons*. The *Church* of Notre Dame has an elegant portal of the 15th cent., and contains the relics of St. Clotilda; there is a small public library with some MSS., and a collection of local antiquities. Neufchatel is situated near the head-waters of the Bethune, a stream which the rly. follows for 22 m. to Dieppe, passing near *Bures*, where there is an interesting ch., the entrance of the 12–13th cent. Near the ch., a handsome house of 15th cent. with carvings.

17 m., *Arques* Stat. The castle here is described in the excursions from Dieppe.

4 m. **Dieppe**, in Rte. 6.

ROUTE 12.

THE SEINE, B.—ROUEN TO HAVRE AND HONFLEUR.

85½ Eng. m. The distance to Havre by rly. is 55½ m.

Steamers every second day during the summer, returning on the alternate days, performing the voyage in from 6 to 8 hrs. In July and August the steamers run daily.

The scenery is so pleasing, that, notwithstanding the windings of the river, the voyage in fine weather is very agreeable.

The places where the steamers stop for passengers are marked with an asterisk (*).

The hour of starting varies so as to enable the vessels to meet the top of the tide off Quillebœuf, and by the aid of it to pass the shifting sands there.

For some distance below Rouen the river is intersected by numerous islands planted with willows and poplars. The hills near Rouen are dotted with white country-houses.

rt. The vale of Bapaume, beset with cotton factories, opens out.

l. *Petit Quevilly* (3 m. from Rouen). Here is an ancient chapel of *St. Julien*, restored, and now dedicated to St. Pierre; it is in the Romanesque style, terminated by an apse with round-headed windows and doors, and was built soon after 1162 by our Henry II., who had a hunting-seat in the adjoining forest.

rt. *Canteleu*, a château of the time of Louis XIV.; its terraces and gardens were laid out by Le Nôtre, but have been modernised. The ch. has double oak doors, admirably carved with figures, perhaps by the same hand as those at St. Maclou, Rouen.—D. T.

rt. *Dieppedale*, a long row of houses bordering the river.

l. *Grand Quevilly* once contained a Protestant ch. (temple) capable of holding 10,500 persons; but in 1685, through the machinations of the Jesuits, it was closed, and a few months after razed to the ground. This act of intolerance was committed shortly before the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, and entailed persecution and exile on the large and industrious Reformed community which then occupied this district.

l. **Moulineaux*, a prettily situated but poor village, on the high-road to Honfleur (Rte. 23), has a pretty *Ch.* in the earliest Pointed style of the 13th cent., containing some good woodwork of 16th cent. On the hill above it are some of the walls and dungeons of a *castle* destroyed by King John, which, according to the tradition, once belonged to *Robert the Devil*, a fabulous personage, a sort of Norman Blue Beard, who murdered his friends and mistresses, and in the end sold himself to the Evil One. Some suppose him to have been Duke Robert, the father of William the Conqueror.

l. Near **La Bouille* (see Rte. 8) and Caumont are extensive quarries of building-stone. Bare yellow cliffs line the river for some distance.

rt. **St.-Georges-de-Boscherville.* This famous abbey stands at some distance from the Seine, near the Havre road (Rte. 13), and is only just visible from the river.

The Seine makes a bend 18 m. between Rouen and this point.

rt. **Duclair*, a pretty village traversed by the road to Havre (Rte. 13), squeezed in between the river and the rocks, one of which, an elevated crag, goes by the name of *la Chaire de Gargantua*. There is an interesting *Church*; "the central part late in 12th cent., with marble piers; the aisles (very much later), into which the old clerestory windows of the nave open, have wooden waggon-roofs and tie-beams which spring from the gaping mouths of dragons. There is a low central tower."—D. T. Near Duclair large blocks of very hard chalk (*craie grise*) are quarried from the cliffs, and worked as a freestone for gate-posts, copings, &c.; no frost seems to touch it. The rt. bank again sweeps round to the S., its elevated slope covered with hanging woods.

rt. It is recorded that at the hamlet of Mesnil, Agnes Sorel, favourite of Charles VII., breathed her last in the arms of the king. An old building is still pointed out as her abode; it retains chimneys of the 15th cent. It was called Mesnil la Belle; and is now a labourer's cottage. The l. bank below Mesnil rises into round hills of considerable height, part bare, part wooded; houses few, and scenery solitary. To this succeeds on the rt. a verdant plain, a peninsula formed by the winding river, out of the midst of which rise the twin towers of the Abbey of Jumièges (Rte. 13).

l. The *Château de Mailleraye*, situated at the water's edge, below the village of Guerbaville, has been swept away to make room for a large ship-builder's yard.

Below Mailleraye the river widens considerably, and its channel is beset with the sand-banks which render navigation difficult, leaving only a narrow passage in the middle for vessels to pass.

rt. **Caudebec.* See Rte. 13.

A humble structure at the foot of the steep wooded heights below Caudebec is the *Chapel of N. D. de Barre-y-va*, much resorted to by sailors, who have covered its walls with ex-votos, paintings, models of ships, &c. The name is probably derived from the much-dreaded Barre, or Bore, ascending from the estuary of the Seine at times thus far.

rt. **Villequier*, prettily placed, and forming an agreeable intermixture of trees and houses surmounted by a Gothic tower, is a fishing-village and station of the pilots. The *Ch.* has some late painted glass, and its original font.

l. Vatteville, a village of 1041 Inhab. The *Ch.* has a handsome choir, transepts, square tower, and nave, in the Renaissance style, with rich 16th-cent. stained glass.

The Seine, which has run nearly due S. from Caudebec, resumes its original direction from E. to W. below Vieux Port, and preserves the same as far as its mouth. Its banks, retiring to a considerable distance from each other, allow it to expand into a wide but shallow estuary.

l. **Quillebœuf*, an important town and small seaport which Henri IV. wished to convert into a fortress, is built on a projecting promontory, at the extremity of which stands its massive church-tower and lighthouse. The *Ch.* is Norman (11th cent.) and has some points of interest. This is the station of the pilots who carry vessels through the intricate navigation of the mouth of the Seine, from Havre and Honfleur as far as Villequier.

This is the most difficult and dangerous portion of the whole river for vessels, on account of the strong tide and shifting sands, and only to be passed at or near high water. Shipwrecks occurred frequently before the introduction of steam tugs, which, by enabling vessels to pass, even when the wind is unfavourable, has diminished the delay and risks. So shifting are the sand-banks off Quillebœuf that they have been known to change their position considerably in the course of a few months: this occurred in 1840,

The cause of this must be looked for in the sudden contraction of the river at this point to about ¾ m., while a little below it is 3 m. wide. The consequence is that the vast mass of water poured into the Seine very commonly enters the river in the form of a lofty wave, a kind of wall of water, 1 to 3 ft. high, called *La Barre* (or *le Mascaret*), and similar to the *Bore* at the mouth of the Severn. It stretches across from one bank to the other, marked by a line of foam, sweeping all before it with a roar like thunder, heard a considerable time before it arrives. It seems to acquire the greatest force abreast of Quillebœuf, where it dashes over the quays, hurling vessels against them, and sometimes injuring the buildings; it extends as high as Caudebec.

rt. Through the vista up the valley of the Bolbec, which opens opposite Quillebœuf, a glimpse is obtained of the castle towers of *Lillebonne*, a place celebrated for its remains of a Roman theatre (Rte. 13).

rt. The opening of another small valley is marked on one side by a conspicuous white rock called *La Pierre Gante* (? Géante), overhanging the Seine from a height of 200 ft., and on the other by the *Castle of Tancarville*, a venerable stronghold of the chamberlains of the Dukes of Normandy, planted on a high cliff forming part of the headland called Nez de Tancarville. To the water-side it presents an open terrace, on which stands the modern château, a vast stone building, erected 1709-17, by Louis de la Tour d'Auvergne, Count of Evreux, but devoid of architectural interest. Behind stretch two long lines of stately towers connected by curtains forming a large triangular inclosure, once the castle courts, now grass-grown and encumbered with ruins. The best-preserved portions are the gatehouse with caged windows, and grooves for double portcullis, and the contiguous tower dating from the latter half of the 15th cent. Here, within walls 9 ft. thick, may be seen the "cachots" — and the "chambre de question" which is frequently mentioned by the old annalists. In a corner tower (l'Aigle), on the brow of the cliff overhanging the Seine, one or two old wall-pieces, so constructed as to be loaded from the breech, are preserved. In this part only of the old castle do the roofs and floors remain. All the rest consists of mere shattered walls, gutted towers, inclosures dark and overgrown with nettles and hemlock, which now luxuriate on the hearths of the Tancarvilles, Montmorencys, Harcourts, and La Tours d'Auvergne, its ancient owners. The chapel and the Salle des Chevaliers, with 3 fireplaces, are worthy of notice, as also the loftiness of some of the towers, and their singular form: the *Tour du Lion*, or *du Diable*, is circular externally; the *Tour Coquesart*, 60 ft. high, of 5 storeys piled one over the other, and still surmounted by the stone-groined ribs of its roof, while all the rest is fallen, is in the shape of a triangle with curved sides. It communicates behind with the *Donjon*, which was detached from the body of the castle and entered by a drawbridge. It contains a well 300 ft. deep. The date of its construction is the early part of the 15th cent., and scarcely any portion of the castle seems older. The English under Henry V. burned down the one that pre-existed in 1437. From the last of the noble owners whose names are above mentioned, Tancarville fell into the hands of Law of Lauriston, of South Sea notoriety. It was plundered and demolished at the Revolution; but after having been for 20 years attached to a hospital at Havre, it has reverted to a descendant of the Montmorencys, a M. de Lambertye. The hamlet of fishers' huts beneath the castle has a fair little *Inn*, the H. du Havre. The distance from Lillebonne by the new road is only 5 m., and from St. Romain Stat. on the rly. to Havre (Rte. 14) about 10 m. in all, or 7 from the village of St. Romain.

Below this the banks of the Seine are too distant and destitute of objects of interest to need further notice, excepting the towns and ports of

rt. HARFLEUR (Rte. 14).

l. *Honfleur*, noticed in Rte. 23.

Passengers can be put ashore here,

where they can take the Rly. to Lisieux and Caen; but the hotel accommodation at Honfleur is not so good as at Havre. It is about 7 m. across to rt. HAVRE, in Rte. 14.

ROUTE 13.

ROUEN TO HAVRE—LOWER ROAD, BY ST.-GEORGE - BOSCHERVILLE, JUMIÈGES, CAUDEBEC, AND LILLEBONNE.

86 kilom = 53½ Eng. m.

Although the *Railroad* or Steamer from Rouen to Havre (Rtes. 12 and 14) will be the most convenient way of reaching the interesting sites on this route, yet the present road is one of the most agreeable in Normandy, both for the views of the Seine which it commands, and for the succession of ancient ecclesiastical remains in the vicinity of which it passes. It is hilly. A little way beyond the cotton-spinning village of Bapaume, the road surmounts the long hill of Canteleu, from whose top Rouen is seen to very great advantage, and the Seine winding away S. to encircle the ridge of which the hill of Canteleu forms a part. On the l. is the *Château of Canteleu* (Rte. 12), which commands the view in perfection, and about 2 m. beyond it a road turning off to the l. leads to the

Abbey of St. Georges de Boscherville, whose *Church* (M. H.) of 12th cent. is one of the most unaltered ecclesiastical monuments in Normandy. It was founded by Raoul de Tancarville, chamberlain of the Conqueror, previous to the Conquest, and consecrated in the founder's presence. The Abbey was destroyed at the Revolution, but the church was preserved for the use of the parish. It has the best circular Norman work, without the heaviness which prevails in English examples. The W. end has a circular-headed door, with 5 sets of mouldings, and in its richness rather resembles the English than the French-Norman. On either side are graceful turrets with spires, of 13th cent. "The vaulting of the nave and transepts is pointed, but the rest of the arches are circular. At the ends of the transepts are lofts or tribunes as at Winchester, carried by a pair of arches, with a pier between. Under each of them, to the E., is a small circular apse. The aisles do not run round the main apse, but terminate to the E. in small apses. At the end of the N. transept is the *Chapter-house*, a beautiful vaulted room with round and pointed arches and much enrichment, especially about the triple-arched porch, built by Abbot Victor, 1211."—*D. T.*

Returning to the high-road, we descend to the borders of the Seine, on which is situated the village (St. Martin, 900 Inhab.) and post-station.

13 m. *Duclair* (4½ m. from St. George's) (*Inns:* H. de Rouen; H. de la Poste), a row of houses between the river and the cliffs, one of which is called *La Chaire de Gargantua.* (See Rte. 12.)

The Seine again takes a widely curving sweep, while the road cuts across the neck of the peninsula. In the midst of this the twin towers of the *Abbey* of *Jumièges* (M. H.) are conspicuous. A cross road turns off to it near *Yainville*, from where it is about 2 m. distant. Jumièges was the most important monastic institution on the banks of the Lower Seine for its extent, the number of its inmates, and its share in promoting learning during the dark ages, and its ruins now tower venerable and majestic above the humble timber-framed and chalk-walled cottages of the village. It has been compared with some of the Romanesque churches on the Rhine in its stately W. façade, surmounted by towers which have lost their spires; square below, but octagonal and of later date above. Between them the porch projects in an unusual manner. This and the entire nave as far as the cross, surmounted by a more massive central tower, one side of which only remains, is of unchanged early Norman (date 1067, the year after the Conquest). The round arches are supported alternately on square piers and circular columns; their capitals, destitute of sculpture, were ornamented with painted foliage, some

traces of which still remain. The interior is in a state of ruin, entirely roofless, save a fragment of vaulting in the aisles; greensward supplies the place of pavement; the E. end, which was in the pointed style of the 13th cent., has been razed to its foundations. For the origin of this dilapidation the Revolution has to answer, but its consummation is of recent date, this ancient and interesting fabric having been absolutely quarried and carted away to build barns with its materials. The stone employed is a hard chalk imbedding flints, which are frequently exposed in the courses of the piers. The present owner fortunately has respect for the ruins, and watches over their preservation, having fitted up the old gatehouse for his residence. A number of curiously and rudely sculptured fragments, keystones, bas-reliefs, &c., have been discovered by him, and merit notice. His plan of the ruins will be viewed with interest. Beneath a plain black marble slab, now broken into several pieces, and lying in a corner, was once deposited the heart of "Agnes Seurelle (Sorel), Dame de Beaulté." She died near this, at Mesnil, in 1459, and Charles VII., her royal lover, had apartments fitted up in the abbey in order to be near her. She was a benefactress to Jumièges, and the monks retained her heart, though her body was interred at Loches in Touraine. Breauté, near Dieppe, was the name of one of her domains; some have read the inscription erroneously "Dame de *Beauté*." Another mutilated monument has been brought to light consisting of mutilated effigies of youths in royal costumes, with circlets on their heads, known by the name of "*les Enervés*" (*i. e.* the hamstrung), from a tradition that they represent the two sons of Clovis II., who, having rebelled against their mother, Bathilde, during their father's absence, suffered the cruel punishment of having the sinews of their arms and legs cut. They were then bound and set adrift in a boat on the Seine, whose current wafted them as far as Jumièges, where they were kindly received by the monks, and ended their days. On the S. side of the ch. are remains of the chapel of *St. Pierre*, a pointed work of the 14th cent.; and of a large vaulted apartment called "Salle des Gardes de Charles VII.," parallel with which runs a very extensive range of subterranean vaults, probably cellars. The ruins of Jumièges, now the property of M. Pel-Caintel, himself an antiquary, may be visited from 11 to 5 o'clock daily. The parish ch. at Jumièges deserves a visit. Some of the piers closely resemble the Norman piers at St. Alban's, but only once recessed.

2½ m. S. of Jumièges is *Mesnil-sous-Jumièges*, where stood the manoir built for Agnes Sorel by Charles VII.

The high road beyond *Yainville* and *Le Trait* is carried on a lofty terrace along the shoulders of the hills, commanding a most pleasing view of the windings of the Seine. Nearly in front the intervening slopes are covered with orchards and gardens, and on the opposite bank stood the *Château of Maillerayе* (Rte. 12). At the little village *Caudebecquet*, about 1 m. before reaching Caudebec, a road turning to the rt. leads in 1½ m. to another monastic ruin of great antiquity, *St. Wandrille* (M. H.), founded by the saint of that name in the 7th cent., and at first called Fontanelle. The N. transept of the Abbey ch. remains almost entire, though the ch. was sold at the Revolution for building-materials, and pulled down or blown up since 1828. The bases of the piers show that this ch. was about 300 ft. long, with 7 bays in the nave and 7 in the choir. The conventual buildings, a palace in extent, in the Italian style of the 16th or 17th cent., were purchased in 1863 by the Marquis of Stackpoole, an Englishman, chamberlain of the Pope, and have been restored. The *Cloisters* behind them contain several arches, rich morceaux of Flamboyant Gothic, and a Lavatory, with a few relics of sculpture. The Refectory is lined with a circular arcade in the Transition style.

The good judgment of the monks is very conspicuous in the choice of the site for this convent, a nook shut out from the world in a side valley of

the Seine, fertile, well watered, and wooded. The hill-side to the N. was terraced to form gardens and shady walks. On the top of the height above them is the little chapel of St. Saturnin, an early Norman structure (11th cent.), with 3 apses and windows like loopholes and walls of herring-bone masonry, many centuries older than any part of the convent below. The Norm. parish *Ch.* should not be left unvisited. St. Wandrille is about 2 m. from

10 m. (from Duclair) *Caudebec.* (*Inns:* H. du Bien Venu, civil people, and good cuisine, but deficient in necessary conveniences; H. de l'Aigle d'Or; H. de la Marine.) This is one of the prettiest little antiquated towns on the Seine (2000 Inhab.), with its quay and terrace along the waterside, shaded by trimmed elms, forming a screen before the row of houses which face the river, a favourite subject of the landscape painter Vernet. The old wooden buildings in the heart of it, particularly those in the narrow Rue de la Boucherie, have been scarcely at all modernised, and are highly picturesque. In its outskirts the hills are dotted with neat villas and country seats. Its only remarkable edifice is its *Church* (M.H.), a beautiful Gothic building in the florid style of the 15th and 16th cents., in the form of a parallelogram without transepts, the aisles being continued round the choir. It is surmounted by a square bell-tower, and a spire rising to a height of 330 ft., of open stonework, the Flamboyant tracery in it taking the form of fleurs-de-lis. Its flying buttresses and variously patterned parapets are very elegant. It was begun 1426, and stands at the side of the church. The gorgeous triple *portal* at the W. end, with side porches, all exuberantly ornamented with foliage, statues and niches (the upper part of inferior Renaissance); the rose-window merits notice. The interior is very admirable, considering its late date; it is uniform, lofty, and of fine proportion, the plain and ornamented parts are well balanced. There is much fine painted glass of the 16th cent., and a wooden cover to the font, carved in relief with subjects from the life of Christ. The spaces between the buttresses are occupied by small chapels; the central one, the Lady Chapel, behind the high altar, is distinguished by a finely groined roof, the ribs of which descend in the centre to form a *pendant of stone*, 14 ft. long, ending in a carved boss. In the next chapel of St. Sepulchre is a group of 8 figures, as large as life, representing personages at the tomb of our Lord, under a florid Gothic canopy. The master mason of the church, Guillaume Le Tellier, is buried in the Lady Chapel: he was employed on it 30 years, to his death, 1484, and in that time completed the upper part of the nave, the choir and chapels around it, including the Lady Chapel.

Caudebec was anciently a strong fortress, capital of the Pays de Caux; it was taken 1419 by the English, under Talbot and Warwick; and, during the wars of religion, Alexander Farnese, Duke of Parma, commander of a Spanish force sent in aid of the League, lost his arm in reconnoitring the ramparts, 1592. His army, having been hemmed in by that of Henri IV., escaped by crossing the Seine here—a masterly movement, effected without loss of a gun or a man, under fire of a Dutch flotilla. In *Rue de la Boucherie* is a bit of good domestic Gothic, 13th cent., once a convent.

[The whole country between Caudebec and *Yvetot* (by *omnibus*, good road, 7½ m., Rte. 14) was within living memory covered with wood, of which nothing now remains except the trees round the farmhouses. About 1½ m. up the valley, to the l. of the Yvetot road, stands the *Church of Ste. Gertrude*, repaired 1841: it merits notice for its Gothic of the 16th cent., and its stone tabernacle.]

The Havre road beyond Caudebec quits the Seine, not to rejoin it until near Harfleur. It mounts a steep ascent and traverses a part of the table-land of the Pays de Caux. There is nothing of interest until we descend into the valley where lies the town of

9 m. **Lillebonne** (*Inn:* H. du Commerce), 5049 Inhab., prettily situated on the Bolbec stream, and interesting

particularly for the ruins of its Roman theatre—a relic of the ancient *Julia Bona*, capital of the *Caletes* (inhabitants of the Pays de Caux), of which the present town occupies the site. The road, on entering the town, passes under the *old Castle* on the rt., and nearly over the space which must have anciently been the stage of the **Roman Theatre*. On the l. is seen the semicircular portion allotted to the spectators, for the most part cut out of the hill, which formed a gradual slope for the seats to rest on. The remains consist chiefly of foundations, and have been laid open since 1812. The fragments of walls in the centre belonged probably to the orchestra, those on the slope of the side to the dressing-rooms. On the hill, among fragments of masonry, are several semicircular terraces, one above the other, with traces of the vomitories, or entrances; and round the whole runs a vaulted passage, gradually rising from the side to the centre, by which entrance was obtained to the upper seats. The walls and part of the vaults here remain tolerably perfect; they are supported by many spurs or buttresses. The walls are faced with ashlar masonry, or with small stones about the size of bricks neatly jointed, the centre filled in with rubble of flint strongly cemented with grouting, the whole banded together at irregular intervals by courses of red tiles. The stone employed is a porous but coherent calcareous tufa, which is to this day deposited by the water of a neighbouring brook. This is the best preserved, and indeed almost the only example of an ancient theatre in the N. of Europe. It measured across the chord of the arc 300 ft., and the dimensions of the circular corridor were 625. The ground in and about the town can scarcely be turned up without disclosing ancient remains of one sort or another. In 1870 a fine large *mosaic* of hunting scenes, supposed to belong to a Temple of Diana, and well preserved, was uncovered in the Quartier St. Denis. The Museum at Rouen has been greatly enriched from this mine of antiquities.

On the opposite side of the high road, looking down upon the theatre, is the **Castle*, a picturesque ruin, historically interesting as the residence of Wm. the Conqueror, who here called together his barons to unfold the scheme of the invasion of England. The massive outer walls now serve to inclose a garden and modern house; close beside it is a tall round tower of beautiful masonry, having walls 13 ft. thick, and some finely ribbed vaults; isolated by a deep fosse, crossed by a drawbridge. It is a construction of the 15th cent., built probably by the Harcourts, who owned the castle down to the Revolution. Not far off is a mutilated angular tower of the 13th or 14th cent. The great Norman hall, in which, according to the tradition, William met his barons in council, has been entirely swept away by the present proprietor. The commanding elevation of these ruins gives them a magnificent view over the adjacent valley, with a peep, through a gap at its extremity, of the broad estuary of the Seine 3 m. below the town. The *Parish Church* has a fine tower and spire, similar to that of Harfleur, "of the 15th cent., resembling a good English Perp. steeple. Adjoining it is a deep double portal, simple, effective work of the same period. The interior is mean, but has good painted glass."—D. T. *Omnibus* to Havre.

Owing to the abundant supply of water from the neighbouring hills, Lillebonne has become a manufacturing town, and cotton-mills have multiplied considerably about it, especially up the valley towards Bolbec: calicos and printed cottons are the staple articles fabricated.

The *Castle* of Tancarville (Rte. 12) is 5 m. distant from Lillebonne, by an excellent road. A road from Lillebonne to Havre passes within 3 m. of the castle: the diligences go round by Bolbec. The easiest mode of reaching Lillebonne will be from the Bolbec Stat. on the rly., from which it is 7 m. distant. Public conveyances twice a day. (Rte. 14.)

In descending from the Plaine de Caux towards

Harfleur a fine view is obtained of

that town, its noble spire, and the Seine beyond. The railroad hence to HAVRE is described in Rte. 14.

ROUTE 14.

ROUEN TO HAVRE—RAIL.

Rouen Stat. to	Kil.	Miles.
Malaunay Stat.	9	6
Barentin	17	10
Motteville	34	21
Yvetot	38	24
Bolbec-Nointot	51	32
Beuzeville Stat.	63	39
Havre Stat.	88	55½

8 trains daily, in 2 to 3 hrs.

This line, opened 1847 (its engineer the late Mr. Locke), is carried, for the most part of the way, over the high table-land of the Pays de Caux.

On quitting the station it passes through the Cauchoise tunnel, under the suburb of Bouvreuil and the cemetery of St. Gervais.

After Rouen is left behind, the country traversed by the line exhibits the progress of the cotton industry, in mills or factories, country-houses, villages, &c. Among these are Maromme (Stat.), and Déville, situated in the pretty valley of Cailly, beyond which is

6 m. *Malaunay* Junct. Stat. Here is a *Viaduct* of 8 arches, and a high embankment. Near this the railway to Dieppe (Rte. 6) diverges on rt.

The tunnel of Notre Dame des Champs, 2405 yds. long, pierces the heights of Piccy-Poville, and the railroad crosses the high grounds, and a viaduct 535 ft. long, before reaching

5 m. *Barentin* (Stat.), a town of 3290 Inhab., on the l., in a valley on the Austreberthe, which sets in movement many cotton-mills. [*Omnibus* to Duclair on the Seine, 6½ m., near which are the ruined abbeys of St. George Boscherville and Jumièges (Rte. 13).]

The railway has now emerged by gradual ascents out of the valley of the Seine to the table-land of the Pays de Caux, an elevation of about 400 ft., passing by *Pavilly* and *Motteville* Stats., from which there are public conveyances to *St.-Valery-en-Caux* (Rte. 18).

11 m. *Yvetot* Stat. (*Inn:* H. des Victoires, fair) is an industrious town of 8873 Inhab., with houses of timber, containing some manufactures of cotton, but destitute of water and of objects of interest. The title of "Roi d'Yvetot" has given a celebrity to its name, and has greatly puzzled antiquaries and local historians, who have failed in proving the existence of any sovereign authority, or in discovering the origin of the title. There is a tradition that one Gauthier, Lord of Yvetot, having offended King Clothaire, son of Clovis, and having been banished his presence, ventured to throw himself at the feet of the king while he was kneeling in prayer before the high altar at Soissons on Good Friday, thinking that the holiness of the place, and of the day of pardon for the sins of mankind, might obtain forgiveness for him also. Clothaire, however, no sooner saw him than he drew his sword and slew him, but, repenting afterwards of his crime, and desiring to make atonement to Gauthier, created his heirs kings of Yvetot. But this story has no good foundation. Béranger describes the king of Yvetot:—

> "Il était un roi d'Yvetot,
> Peu connu dans l'histoire,
> Se levant tard, se couchant tôt,
> Dormant fort bien sans gloire,
> Et couronné par Jeanneton
> D'un simple bonnet de coton."

Diligence to Caudebec, 7½ m., thrice a day (Rte. 13); to Allouville, 4 m., celebrated for a gigantic oak (M. H.) in the cemetery, said to be 900 yrs. old, and in the upper part of which a chapel to the Virgin has been built.

The *Pays de Caux*, through the centre of which the railroad runs, retains the name, slightly altered, of its ancient inhabitants in Cæsar's time, the Caletes. It is a high table-land, only here and there intersected by watercourses, exceedingly fertile, though somewhat

arid. Trees are rare on this high ground, except the avenues of fruit-trees on the roadside, and around villages and farmhouses, whose existence and position are invariably denoted by a sort of verdant rampart of elms, planted in lines and double rows, on or near a high bank of earth; the farms or châteaux being hidden behind such inclosures.

11 m. *Bolbec-Nointot* Stat. Omnibus to Lillebonne (6 m.) [Omnibus to 2 m. S. *Bolbec* (*Inn:* H. de l'Europe), a town of 10204 Inhab., of staring brick houses, which replace those of wood destroyed by a great fire in the last century: situated in one of the pleasant valleys which intersect the Pays de Caux. It contains a number of cotton-mills, manufactories of calicos, printed stuffs, and handkerchiefs; printworks, bleaching-grounds, &c.; it is one of the most industrious places in the Dépt. of the Seine Inférieure. The abundant stream which runs through it, and is a main cause of this activity, turns upwards of 100 mills of different kinds before it joins the Seine below *Lillebonne.*]

Bolbec lying in a depression of the table-land, high embankments and a viaduct were required to carry the railway across it. Beyond

At Mirville is a viaduct of 48 brick arches, the highest 106 ft. above the surface. Hence there is a steep incline by which the railway descends.

4 m. *Beuzeville* Junct. Stat. [Railway to Fécamp, Rte. 18.] Omnibus to Etretat, by Goderville and Criequetot.

5 m. *St. Romain* Stat., 2½ m. from the town of the same name (*Inn:* H. Fidolin, homely but good), situated in a pretty country. This will be the most convenient place on the rly. from which to visit Tancarville (Rte. 12), which is 10 miles distant from the rly. stat., by a pretty road, partly through a wood.

7 m. *Harfleur* Stat. (Pop. 1750), situated on the Lézarde, a stream now barely navigable, and 2 m. from the Seine, yet Monstrelet calls it "le souverain port de la Normandie." The deposits brought down by the Lézarde have contracted its bed, and formed a fringe of land along the shore of the Seine, which has gradually increased the distance between the town and the estuary. Before the rise of Havre, Harfleur was the chief port of the mouth of the Seine, at which the wool of Spain and Portugal was imported and sent up to Montevilliers to be wrought, while by reason of its fortifications it was the key to the entrance of the river. In 1415 it resisted for 40 days the besieging army of Henry V. of England, who, as soon as it had yielded, uncovered his feet and legs and walked barefoot to church to say his prayers, after which he collected the inhabitants to the number of 8000, and, turning them out of their houses with only the clothes on their backs, banished them and confiscated their property, substituting English colonists in their place. In 20 years, however, the town was surprised by a band of peasants, aided by a number of the former inhabitants, and the English were expelled. The tower, spire, and N. aisle of its *Church* (M. H.), built in the 15th cent., it is said, by Henry V., and its fringed N. portal, are deservedly praised as masterpieces of late Gothic. The E. end dates from the 13th cent. The body of the church has, however, suffered so severely from decay and injudicious repairs, as to be scarcely worth a visit. The tower is well seen from the railway. The spire has been shortened. There is a fine timber-house (15th cent.) near the ch.

The *Terrace* of the *Château of Orcher*, running along the heights above the town, commands a fine view of the river and its estuary.

3 m. N. of Harfleur is the village of *Montivilliers*, on the Lézarde, Pop. 4564 (omnibus from Havre), containing an *Abbey Church* (M. H.), with a tower and spire chiefly Romanesque. The N. aisle and large open porch are 15th cent. At the W. end of the N. aisle is a pretty, small gallery richly corbelled.

From Harfleur to Havre the railroad is carried along the side of a hill, sloping gently down to the Seine, whose embouchure is seen at intervals. Rt. a little above the road stands *Graville*. Its small *Abbey Church* (M. H.),

prettily situated on a wooded bank (fine view), is Norman, probably of the 12th cent. Its transepts are decorated externally with round intersecting arches, surmounted by figures of animals. The capitals of the pillars in the nave are sculptured with monsters. A merciless modern chisel has gone over the whole, giving it a new face, and destroying its venerable character as an example of ancient work. Still the *Church* is well worth examination. It was built in honour of St. Honoria, whose stone sarcophagus was discovered in 1867 on the l. of the altar; her relics were removed for safety, at the Norman invasion, to Conflans, and confided to the custody of the monks, who, when the danger was over, refused to restore them. Remains of the masonry of a quay, with rings to attach vessels, are said to have been found under Graville. N.B. The omnibuses from Havre to Harfleur and Montivilliers pass close beneath the church.

4 m. **Havre** *Terminus*, on the Cours de la République, and near the Bassin Vauban. It covers 36 acres. *Omnibuses* to the principal hotels. Fares: 30 c. by day, 40 c. by night. *Cabs*, the course, 1 fr. 40 c.; the hour, 1 fr. 80 c.; after midnight one-half fare more.

(*Inns: H. Frascati*, Rue de Perrey, on the sea, most distant from the Rly., with a good table-d'hôte, reading-room, and warm-baths. *H. de l'Europe*, Rue de Paris, fair, *H. de l'Amirauté*, *H. de Normandie*, in the Rue de Paris, central; *H. des Indes*, on the Quai, near the steamers; *H. de Bordeaux*, on the Place.)

Havre (now *le Hâvre*, originally Hâvre de Grace, from a small chapel of Notre Dame de Grace which stood on its site), the port of the Seine and of Paris, one of the most thriving maritime towns of France, is situated on the N. side of the estuary of the Seine, and contains 86,900 Inhab. It is a modern town, owing its foundation to Francis I. (1516), and its prosperity to the judicious enactments of Louis XVI., and has since that time been rapidly gaining upon its elder rivals, Bordeaux and Nantes. It has few fine buildings and no historical monuments; its streets are laid out chiefly in straight lines, at right angles with one another; they are grouped round the basins, or docks, which communicate from one to the other by lock-gates, and are entered from the outer sea-basin or *avant-port*. The quays bordering on the basins are lined with vessels, and choked up with cotton-bales, sugar-casks, &c. Its principal street (and it is a handsome one) is the Rue de Paris, extending through the Place Louis XVI., from the Hôtel de Ville, to the *Grand Quai* near the entrance of the port. In this street stands the *Church of Notre Dame* (1575–1600), a large building Gothic in plan and arrangement, but principally Renaissance in details. The W. front is of the present cent.

Great improvements have been made in every part of the town; the old ramparts which surrounded it were removed in 1856, and Ingouville, Graville, and Sanvic, united to Havre. Detached forts have been built on the surrounding hills.

The tide passing up the Seine keeps up the water in the harbour, so that vessels can enter and leave it for nearly four hours in each tide; at low-water the Avant-Port is dry. The harbour consists of the Avant-Port or tidal harbour and 6 floating-docks—the *Bassin de la Barre* on the N., out of which open the *Bassin du Commerce* and the *Bassin Vauban;* whilst on the S. are the *Bassin de la Floride*, the *Bassin de l'Eure*, the largest of all, destined for the large Atlantic steamers, and communicating with the *Bassin* or *Dock Entrepôt*, which is surrounded by bonded warehouses. A large dry-dock has also been built. The principal foreign trade is with America, and numerous large liners usually lie alongside the dock quays.

The saying of Napoleon, that "Paris, Rouen, and Havre formed only one city, of which the Seine was the highway," explains the cause of the prosperity of Havre. It is the place of import of all the foreign articles needed for the supply of the French metropolis: like Liverpool with us, it is the

chief *cotton port* of France, furnishing this commodity to the manufacturer of Rouen, Lille, St. Quentin, and even as far as Alsace, and from these cities it again receives the manufactured goods for exportation. Much of the cotton now goes by the railway, but the huge barges called *chalands*, towed by steamers, are still employed. Havre being the principal port of communication between France and America, a great number of emigrants, many from Germany, annually embark here for the New World.

The imports of Havre, though only one-half in tonnage of those of Marseilles (the chief seaport in France), nearly equal them in value. The number of vessels belonging to the port is nearly 500, of which 40 are engaged in the whale fishery. The number of vessels inward bound was, in 1861, 6830, with a gross tonnage of 1,269,000, and the Customs receipts 41 millions of francs.

The shipbuilders of Havre, especially M. Normand, enjoy a high reputation for the skill and science which they display in the construction of their vessels. The steam-engine factories of MM. Mazeline are amongst the most extensive in France.

Amongst the modern improvements of Havre are to be noted the *Public Squares* and *Boulevards*. Of the former, the Place Louis XVI., facing the Bassin du Commerce, and having the theatre in the centre, is very fine. One-half of the square is divided off and used as an open air Bourse, and in it are several brilliant cafés. Farther N. is the Place de l'Hôtel de Ville, in which stands the Hôtel de Ville, a very handsome Renaissance edifice, built in 1855; in the centre is the *Jardin Public*.

Of the *Public Promenades* laid out on the site of the old fortifications, the *Cours de la République* extends from the Bassin de Vauban to the suburb of Graville. At its S.W. extremity, where the Rly. Stat. is situated, commences the *Boulevard de Strasbourg*, a noble avenue extending by the Place de l'Hôtel de Ville to the seashore: it is joined at its W. extremity by the Boulevard François I., which, running parallel to the coast, leads to the extremity of the Avant-Port and the *Jetée du Nord*, the principal promenade, and is very amusing at high water.

The annals of Havre are connected with the history of England at several points. Henry of Richmond embarked here, 1485, for Milford Haven and Bosworth Field, backed by 4000 men, furnished by Charles VIII. to aid his enterprise. The town was delivered over to the keeping of Queen Elizabeth by the Prince de Condé, leader of the Huguenots, 1562, and the command of it was intrusted to Ambrose Dudley, Earl of Warwick; but the English were ejected within a year, after a most obstinate siege, whose progress was pressed forward by Charles IX., and his mother, Catherine de Medicis, in person, sensible that the possession of Havre by the English would be a thorn in the side of France. Hatred of the English, indeed, had united all parties in France against them. The Protestant Condé served in the besieging army, which was commanded by the Constable Montmorency, previously the ally of the English. Warwick held out against vastly superior numbers, until his force was reduced by slaughter and the plague from nearly 6000 to 1500; he was himself shot in defending a breach, after which the place surrendered. Charles II. landed here after the fight of Worcester and the adventure of the Royal Oak, Oct. 1651.

The fleet of William III., which had failed before Brest, made an ineffectual attempt in 1694 to bombard the town, as it had before done in the case of Dieppe with success. In 1796 Sir Sidney Smith, while cruising in the Channel, endeavoured to cut out a French ship of war from under the batteries, but became entangled in the currents and sandbanks of the Seine, and his vessel, having been perceived next morning lying high and dry, was captured by some gunboats, and he was sent a prisoner to the Temple in Paris.

Eng. Ch. Service at 11 and 6 on Sundays, in the new ch., built 1875, in the Rue Mexicô, close to the Palais de Justice; chaplain, Rev. G. Washington.

A handsome *Museum* (*open* Sund., Thurs., and fête-days, and daily to strangers, small fee), containing pictures by Troyon, Yvon, Couture, &c., and specimens of fossil reptiles, fish, tortoises, &c., dug up beneath high-water mark in the estuary of the Seine, and *Public Library* (containing 30,000 vols., with some MSS. of the 8th and 9th cents.) has been built on the Quai, at the end of the Rue de Paris. At the entrance to the museum are bronze *statues*, by David, of Bernardin de St. Pierre and Casimir Delavigne, both natives of Havre.

The *Cercle du Commerce* is a large club-house, furnished with almost all the European newspapers and many American: strangers can be introduced by members.

The *Theatre* in the Place Louis XVI., at the extremity of the Bassin du Commerce, is one of the most striking buildings in the town.

Baths.—*Frascati*, on the seashore, not far from the pier, contains good hot and cold sea-water baths. In summer, bathing is carried on in the open sea. Cabinets are provided for dressing and undressing, and men and women bathe together, but in bathing-dresses. There are no bathing-machines properly speaking; ladies are led out to a sufficient depth of water by the guide, who then seizes them by the shoulders, lays them on the surface of the water, and dips them by sousing their heads under water.

N.B. The draught of the tide is so strong as sometimes to overpower even skilful swimmers. The bathers lay hold of ropes attached to posts, to avoid being swept away in stormy weather.

The *Poste aux Lettres* is on the Boulevard de Strasbourg.

Consuls reside here from Great Britain and from other maritime states of Europe and America.

Steamers to Caen daily in 3 or 4 hours (Rte. 24); to Honfleur twice a day in ½ hr. (Rte. 23); to Trouville once or twice daily; to Cherbourg on Sun. and Thurs.; to Morlaix in Brittany in 18 hours, every Wed. and Sat.; to London twice a week; to Southampton on Mon., Wed., and Fri.; to Dunkirk, Rotterdam, and Hamburg twice a week; to Amsterdam; to St. Petersburg and Copenhagen twice a month. More than 70 steam-vessels, including tug-boats, belong to the Port du Havre.

The Norman Church of *Graville*, 2 m. on the Rouen road (see above), is worth a visit from the architect.

Environs.

Ste.-Adresse (omnibus from the Place Louis XVI. every ¼ hr., in ½ hr.). About half-way to the village the *view* over the town of Havre—its forest of masts rising from amidst its buildings over the embouchure of the Seine, the distant hills of Calvados appearing on the horizon like an island, and over the heights of La Hève to the rt. is very striking and pleasing. The village, of 1606 Inhab., lies in a little valley 3 m. from Havre, through which runs the road to the lighthouses.

The cliffs under the lofty headland of Cap la Hève, on which the *Lighthouses* are erected at a height of 300 ft., offer some fine rock scenery; but, except when the tide is low, the shingly beach is not favourable for walking. These rocks were the favourite haunt of the author of 'Paul and Virginia.' Large forts have been built since 1858 on the heights above the town; one at Ste.-Adresse, the other above Tourneville.

Ingouville. These heights are on the N.W. side of the town, ¼ hr. from the Place de l'Hotel de Ville, and the view from them is best by sunset. The place is studded with villas and gardens.

Havre is a good centre for excursions to Etretat, Harfleur, Tancarville, Lillebonne, &c., and those who have time should go over to Honfleur (see Rte. 23) by steamer.

ROUTE 18.

HAVRE TO FÉCAMP (RAIL); THENCE TO DIEPPE, EU, AND ABBEVILLE.

171 kilom. = 106 Eng. m.

The traveller can choose between 2 routes as far as Etretat, or by the rly. from Beuzeville, the distance being nearly the same to Fécamp.

Beuzeville Junct. Stat. (Rte. 14) to Fécamp. 5 trains daily, in less than an hour. Leaving here, the line traverses the Pays de Caux to

4 m. *Grainville* Stat., 2 m. from the town of Goderville.

4 m. *Les Ifs Etretat.* Stat. Public conveyances to 10 m.

Etretat.—(*Inns:* H. Blanquet; H. Hauville, facing the sea, good, clean, and comfortable; H. des Bains; H. des deux Augustins; many lodging-houses.) This was formerly a small picturesque fishing-village much frequented by artists, but has become since 1840 a fashionable watering-place. The coast scenery around is beautiful; the chalk cliffs of fantastic forms; the bathing is good. The *Casino*, once washed away by a high tide, is replaced by a larger one. The *Ch. of Notre Dame* (M. H.) has a plain Romanesque nave with wood ceiling, and a handsome W. door restored. The 2 E. bays of nave, transepts, choir, and small apse with square end, are very fine work of the beginning of the 13th cent. At the crossing is a lofty groined lanthorn, in the same excellent style.

Returning to Les Ifs Stat., the high ground of the Pays de Caux is intersected by a number of valleys running down to the sea, in every one of which a village or small town nestles.

5 m. **Fécamp** Stat. (*Inns:* H. des Bains, near the sea; H. du Chariot d'Or; H. de la Gare; H. de la Plage. The hotels in the town are at an inconvenient distance from the shore for bathing), a town of 13,132 Inhab., in the bottom and on the sides of a narrow valley opening towards the sea between 2 high cliffs, on one of which stands a lighthouse. It has the advantage of being at once a seaport and a manufacturing town, owing to the abundant stream which, as it descends, turns numerous cotton and other mills. The harbour is small and was much sanded up, but is now deepened and improved, and is resorted to by colliers from England, and Baltic timber-ships, besides sending numerous vessels to the cod-fishery on the coasts of Newfoundland and Iceland.

In the centre of the town stands the *Abbey Ch. of Notre Dame* (M.H.), a large and fine edifice in the Early Pointed style, of the end of 12th and beginning of the 13th cent., having been principally built by Abbot Radulph, d. 1220. "Two of the Apse Chapels and one arch of the choir, and the triforium over it, are circular work, and appear to be the only remains of an earlier ch. The remainder is of the finest early pointed, except some of the chapels and S. side of choir, which are late. The nave and crossing will rank with the finest early pointed work in France. It was finished just before Amiens was begun. It is in a style which has no equivalent in England."—*D. T.* The Lady Chapel, with its fine glass, its carved woodwork of the 16th cent., and the monuments in the side chapels of abbots Richard (1223), William (1297), and Robert (1326), consisting of altar-tombs enriched with crocketed niches, bearing their effigies reclining under florid canopies, merit notice. Also some carvings of Scriptural subjects in the N. transept. *St. Stephen's Ch.* is worth a visit.

On the top of the cliff behind the town is the Gothic *Chapelle de N. Dame du Salut*, a fragment of a choir of 3 bays of good work, and one bay of the transept; it resembles English Decorated; much resorted to as a place of pilgrimage by seafaring persons. The fishwives sometimes ascend to it on their knees as a penance. Near this ch. is the lighthouse, the lanthorn of which, 425 ft. above the sea, is visible from a distance of 185 miles.

On the beach to the W. of the town is the *Établissement de Bains de Mer*, with the usual accessories of café and restaurant, promenade and ball-rooms, and an *hotel* constructed to accommodate 200 guests. On the rising ground behind, laid out as gardens, in the form of an amphitheatre, a number of ornamental châlets are provided for the residence of the bathing visitors.

Fr. Prot. Service on alternate Sundays at 5 m. *Criquetot*, where there is a numerous Protestant population. Carriages and horses easily procurable. King Charles II. landed here from Shoreham, 1667.

The most agreeable road from Fécamp to St. Valery en Caux and Dieppe will be by *Cany;* but there are no public conveyances, and private carriages are expensive.

A steep hill carries the road out of Fécamp on the side of Dieppe.

12 m. *Cany*, in a pretty green and wooded valley, forms an agreeable contrast to the bare open land which precedes and follows. The *Château* belongs to the Duc de Montmorency-Luxembourg.

[On the rt. of the road to Cany, and 7 m. from Fécamp, is the small town of *Valmont* (*Inn:* H. du Commerce), with a good Gothic *Ch.*, and a castle with a Norman keep of the 13th cent., which belonged to the Estouteville and Dugueselin families; the apartment in which Francis I. lodged still preserves its original handsome furniture. On the opposite side of the river stood the Abbaye de Valmont, the ruins of its church of the 11th cent. alone standing; in the adjoining Chapelle de la Vierge are sepulchral monuments of the Estoutevilles of the 15th cent., some good painted glass, and a retable attributed to *Germain Pilon.*

2 m. S.W. of Valmont is the village of *Fiquainville*, where the naturalist Cuvier spent his early days as tutor in the De Hericy family, and where he pursued his first anatomical studies on the marine animals of the neighbouring coasts.]

The road again reaches the sea at

7 m. *St. Valery en Caux* (*Inns:* H. du Grand Cerf; H. des Bains; H. de la Marine), a fishing town of 4694 Inhab., with a port formed by locking the stream, which here descends to the sea. It is from this place that William the Conqueror is said to have embarked for England. There is a Bathing Establishment here, open June to October. *Omnibus* to Motteville, thence *Rly.* to Paris.

From St. Valery the road runs parallel to, but at some distance inland from the sea, crossing several streams, the largest at Ouville la Rivière; 5 m. beyond which it joins the carriage-road from Rouen to

12 m. *Dieppe*, in Rte. 6.

Omnibus runs twice daily between Dieppe and Eu. The road, as before, is carried over the high ground at some distance from the sea.

19 m. **Eu** Stat. on Rly. from Paris to Tréport. See Rte. 4 for description of this place and *Tréport.*

There are 3 ways of reaching Abbeville from Tréport: the first parallel to the seashore to St. Valery-sur-Somme Stat. (16 m.), and thence by rly.; the second more direct, by Valines, 21 m.; the third by Rly., 36 m. to *Longpré* Stat. on the line from Amiens to

Abbeville, in Rte. 3.

ROUTE 23.

HAVRE TO HONFLEUR, TROUVILLE, AND LISIEUX.

Havre to Honfleur—steamer . .	45 min.	6 miles
Honfleur to Pont l'Evêque . . .	25 kil.	15 „
Lisieux	42 „	26 „

Rail. from Honfleur to Lisieux. Branch from Pont l'Evêque to Trouville.

Havre is described in Rte. 14.

Steamers from Havre to Honfleur (30 min.), to Trouville (see below), and to Caen (Rte. 24). The trajet across the estuary of the Seine is occasionally rough.

Honfleur.—Terminus Stat. (*Inns:* H. Cheval Blanc, opposite the landing-place of the steamers; H. de la Paix; H. de France, cheap and fair), a seaport of 9946 Inhab., opposite to Havre. The town contains many quaint and picturesque old wooden houses, and its situation, backed by wooded heights, is pleasing. There are a pier, harbour, and 3 floating-docks, and a good deal of trade in timber, coal, &c.; great quantities of eggs are exported to England, besides live cattle, butter, and fruit. The *Ch. of St. Catherine* is large and remarkable, entirely of timber and plaster, probably the largest of its kind in France (? of the 16th cent.). "It consists of 2 parallel aisles, with boarded waggon ceilings, and 2 smaller lean-to aisles on the outside. The uprights which carry the building appear to have been solid trunks of oak, squared, but they have been covered with boards and plaster, to imitate stone piers. The cross beams and carved brackets which support them have been treated in the same way, so that it is impossible to guess at what is underneath. The aisle and clerestory windows are all of wood."—*D. T.* Opposite to it is a curious wooden market-house and belfry. The Cours d'Orléans, on the road to Caen, is a fine avenue and promenade. It will be worth while to ascend to the chapel of *Notre Dame de Grace* (1606), on the hill above the town to the W., much resorted to by sailors and filled with their ex-votos, and in a charming situation for the *view* over the Seine. It was formerly not uncommon for the crews of vessels which had escaped dangers at sea to make a pilgrimage hither in their shirts, barefooted and bareheaded.

As several English families reside near Honfleur, there is *English Service*, and a resident clergyman.

[About 14 m. S.E. from Honfleur (diligences) is

Pont Audemer Stat. on rly. to (10 m.) Glos-Montfort on the line from Serquigny to Rouen, Rte. 25. Steamers to Havre. (*Inns:* H. Lion d'Or.; H. Pot d'Etain, dear); the samlets (*saumoneaux*) of the Rille are excellent. This is a prettily situated town of 6182 Inhab., which has some reputation for its Tanneries; some cotton is also woven here, its industry being promoted by the Rille, which passes through it in small streams. It once had a castle, at the siege of which, in the early part of the 14th cent., cannon were first used in France: it was razed by Duguesclin. The ch. of St. Ouen has some good stained glass (M.H.). The *Terrace* of the château de Bonnebon affords a pleasant view. *Protestant Ch. Service* on Sundays, 45 Rue de Bernay. It will be a pleasant walk to ascend the banks of the Rille as far as the *Castle of Montfort.*]

From Honfleur the Rly. runs S. to

15 m. *Pont l'Evêque* Junct. Stat. (*Inn:* H. Bras d'Or), a modern town of 3114 Inhab., at the junction of the Touques and the Calonne. The *Ch.* (M. H.) is a good example of the style of the 15th cent.

[Branch rly. N.W. (passing, 5 m., *Touques*, where Henry V. landed on his way to Azincourt) to

7 m. **Trouville** Terminus Stat. (*Inns:* H. des Roches Noires, best situation, and good but high charges; H. de Paris, looking on the sea; H. Bellevue, on the Quai, fair; H. Bras d'Or). The town of *Trouville*, at the mouth of the Touques, about 10 m. S. W. of Honfleur, always celebrated for oysters, and now raised to 5694 Inhab. by its popularity with the French as a watering-place, was first brought into notice by Alex. Dumas; and the pier and floating-dock now built are tending to increase its importance as a port. The road to it is through a fine forest, and the town itself is very prettily situated on the shore. The sands are very good, and the bathing and society now attract a good many English, whilst crowds of Parisians resort to it in the summer and autumn, display and dress in their train, making it difficult to find room at any price. The *Casino*, open from June to October, is handsomely fitted, and contains reading, dancing, and gambling rooms.

In a retired street is the house of *Victor Barbey*, who concealed here for

30 hours Louis Philippe in 1848, awaiting means of escape to England. The Empress Eugenie also escaped from this port in Sir J. Burgoyne's yacht in 1870.

Objects of Interest: 1. Ruins of St. Arnault's Priory; 2. Château de Bonneville, a very picturesque Norm. castle, where Harold is said to have promised England to William the Norman; the gateway, keep, and outer walls, enclosing a modern mansion, remain; 3. Hennequeville, *obs.* church.

Steamers to Havre twice a day, in 1 hr.

Rly. to Paris, 137 m., 5½ hrs.

On the opposite side of the river, connected by a ferry (10 c.) and bridge, is **Deauville**, the rival in fashion of Trouville. It was founded by the late Duc de Morny, with magnificent *Hotels* (Grand H. du Casino, H. de l'Europe), splendid *Casino*, and an *Esplanade* drive along the sands, upon which are elegant villas: that of M. Jollivet, an artist, remarkable for its façade of enamelled tiles. *Ch. of Eng. Service* in a handsome new ch. It is a pretty drive from Trouville through Deauville, *Villers-sur-Mer*, *Houlgate*, to *Dives*.]

The rly. between Pont l'Evêque and Lisieux proceeds by *Brueil Blagny* Stat. through a green and pretty valley to near the town of Lisieux, when it plunges into a tunnel under a part of the town, and emerges a short distance from

11 m. *Lisieux* Junct. Stat. (Rte. 25).

ROUTE 24.

HAVRE TO CAEN, BY SEA.

This journey may be performed by crossing to Honfleur in the daily steamer, and thence to Pont l'Evêque and Lisieux (Rte. 23) by rail, or by the direct

Steamboats daily from Havre to Caen, starting as soon as the tide allows them to leave the port.

The voyage, which takes about 3 hrs., 2 of them in the open sea, is agreeable in fine weather. The steamer skirts the coast of the dépt. Calvados, in sight of the bathing-place Trouville (Rte. 23), and of the mouth of the Dives. See Rte. 25.

On the l. of the mouth of the Orne is the artificial port of *Ouistreham*. Long wooden jetties project from the bank, and above the village (Pop. 1259) is seen the tall tower of its Romanesque *Ch.* (M. H.), which is well worth a visit. The river is entered with some difficulty, on account of the sand-banks which encumber its sinuous channel, and which shift so continually that the passage is sounded and marked out after every tide. A canal completed in 1857 avoids some of the windings of the Orne, and the distance from the sea to Caen (10 m.) is thereby abridged. The river soon becomes narrow, and the turns in it are sharp. On the rt. bank are many of the quarries from which the celebrated Caen stone is obtained, but the best stone is found above the town. The country on each side is pretty, but affords no very remarkable scenery.

At length the city of Caen is seen, terminated at each extremity by the venerable abbeys of William the Conqueror, and Mathilda his queen; the latter, surmounted by 3 towers, is nearest at hand.

Abreast of the town the river is lined with quays, alongside of which the vessel brings up.

CAEN. Rte. 25.

ROUTE 25.

PARIS TO CAEN, BY EVREUX AND LISIEUX—RAIL.

Paris.	Kil.	Miles.
Mantes	57	36
Bueil	81	50
Evreux	108	67
Conches	126	79
Serquigny Junct.	149	93
Lisieux Junct.	190	118
Mézidon Junct.	216	135
Caen	240	150

Four trains daily, 5 to 8 hrs.

From Paris to

36 m. *Mantes* Junct. Stat. is described in Rte. 8. A little beyond

this we quit the route to Rouen, turning to the l. out of the valley of the Seine, up a fertile but monotonous country.

6 m. *Bueil* Junct. Stat.

[Branch Rly. S. 23 m. to *Dreux*, passing *Ésy-Anet* Stat. (2 m. from the *Château d'Anet*) and *Ivry*. See Rte. 50.]

At Cocherel, on the rt. bank of the Eure, 4 m. below (N.) Pacy, Dugueselin, in 1364, defeated the forces of the King of Navarre, Charles le Mauvais.

10 m. **Evreux** Junct. Stat. (*Inn:* H. du Grand Cerf, H. du Dauphin), chief town of the Dépt. de l'Eure, with 12,320 Inhab., situated in a bowl-shaped valley shut in on N. and S. by hills, and watered by the Iton, an affluent of the Eure, divided into several branches. It has a considerable share in the cotton manufacture (ticking and stockings), here carried on by the hand-loom more than by steam-power. It is an interesting place, and will repay a visit of 3 or 4 hrs. Its chief edifice is

**The Cathedral* (M. H.), small, but lofty and excellent in proportion and arrangement, though presenting to the W. an incongruous Italian front flanked by two ill-looking towers, and surmounted at the cross by a loftier tower and florid spire of wood, erected by Cardinal de la Balue, favourite of Louis XI., in the 15th cent. The lower part of the nave is in the round Norman style, and may perhaps be in part of our Henry I.'s time, since he burnt the town (1119), with the permission of the bishop, on condition of rebuilding the churches, but the piers and arches of the 4 E. bays of the nave are of ruder and earlier work, and belong to the 11th cent. The upper part of the nave, and the rest of the ch., are Pointed, and the whole of it considerably more modern than the reign of Philippe-Auguste, who again burnt Evreux (1198) to revenge himself on the treachery of John Lackland, in making it over to him during King Richard's captivity, but on Richard's unexpected return not only withholding it, but murdering the French garrison in the castle. The upper part of the nave is of c. 1240. The *choir*, supported on clustered columns with a glazed triforium (1330–60), is lofty and light. The *Lady Chapel* contains painted glass remarkable for its fine execution and perfect preservation, and there is much more throughout the ch.

The *Bishop's Palace*, built 1484, presents some curious details.

At the opposite end of the town is the *Ch. of St. Taurin* (M.H.), attached to the ecclesiastical seminary; it is small, and resembles the cathedral in the various styles it displays. The outer wall of the S. transept is ornamented with an arcade of semicircular arches, the panels of which are prettily diapered with a pattern formed of red tiles let into the masonry. This is supposed to be a relic of the ch. built 1026 by Richard II. Duke of Normandy. *Obs.* the *cloister*; the *Chasse* or *Shrine of St. Taurin*, which once contained his relics, preserved in the sacristy. It is a wooden box, in the form of a Gothic chapel, covered with plates of copper or silver gilt, enchased with a diapered pattern, and set round with bas-reliefs and small statuettes of bishops and saints; it is a work of the 13th cent. The architectural decorations are rich and in good taste. The precious stones which once ornamented it have been replaced by imitations.

The streets of Evreux preserve many antique timber-framed houses, and on the Boulevards are traces of the walls which once defended it. It possesses a very picturesque Beffroi, with a richly ornamented flèche, called *Tour de l'Horloge*, built in the 15th cent.

Excavations made at Vieil Evreux (Mediolanum Aulercarum) have led to the discovery of a theatre, baths, &c., and of various relics now deposited in the Museum of Antiquities.

[Branch *Rly.* to N. 17 m. Louviers (Rte. 8), *in progress* S. to Verneuil, in Rte. 35.]

The Rly. from Evreux crosses the Iton to

6 m. *Bonneville* Stat., near which are the ruins of the Abbaye de la Noe, founded in 1144 by the Empress Matilda, daughter of Henry I.; farther on, at Glisolles, is the handsome château of the Duc de Clermont-Tonnerre.

6 m. *Conches* Junct. Stat., a town of 2482 Inhab., on the top of a hill, contains a fine ch., *St. Foy* (M. H.), with good 16th-cent. glass and elegant spire, erected in 1851; a castle, or donjon, of the Comtes de Conches. Diligence to S. 16 m. Verneuil, in Rte. 35. [Branch *Rly.*, S.W. 25 m., to Laigle, in Rte. 35.]

7 m. *Beaumont-le-Roger* Stat. Ruins of the Abbaye de la Trinité (M. H.), of the 12th and 13th cents.

3 m. *Serquigny* Junct. Stat. (Buffet good.) The portal of the *Ch.* (M. H.) of the 11th cent. deserves notice.

[Rly., N. 43 m., to Rouen in 2½ hrs., following the valley of the Rille, and passing though a very pretty country by 10 m. *Brionne.* (*Inn:* H. de France.) A town of 4000 Inhab., which will be the best point from where the ruins of the celebrated *Abbaye de Bec* can be visited. *Bec-Hellouin* is 2½ m. from Brionne: of its abbaye, from which proceeded Lanfranc and Anselm, our Norman Archbishops of Canterbury, one high tower of the abbot's house alone remains; a cavalry depôt occupies the buildings of the monastery; the underground *cellars* are worth a visit; in the parish *Ch.* are the remains of Hellouin, the founder of the abbaye, and some statues from its ruins. The other principal stations on the line are *Glos Montfort* (branch rly. to 10 m. Pont-Audemer, Rte. 23), near which is a handsome château belonging to the Comte de Cosse-Brissac; *Bourgtheroulde*, near which extensive forests are crossed; *Elbeuf*, celebrated for its cloth manufactories (Rte. 11); and *Oissel* (Rte. 8), on the line from Paris to Rouen.]

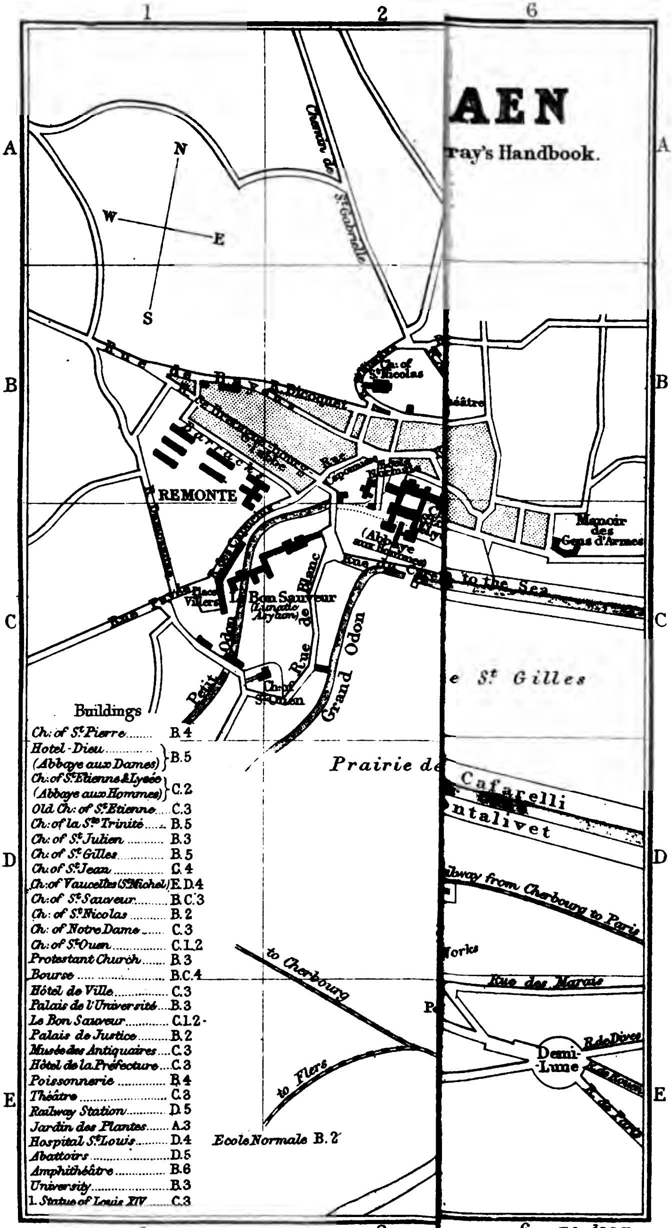
Continuing by the main line from Serquigny,

6 m. *Bernay* Stat. (Buffet.) (*Inns:* H. du Cheval Blanc; H. Lion d'Or), a manufacturing town of 7510 Inhab. It once possessed an important abbey, founded (1013) by Judith, wife of Richard II. Duke of Normandy; the *Ch.* of which, now converted into a market-hall, and faced with a 17th-cent. front, is one of the oldest Romanesque buildings in Normandy, having been begun in 1024. It is large in dimensions and simple in its style: plain square piers support circular arches. The columns attached to the piers are carved, and one is inscribed "Isambardus me fecit." "The dome vaulting over the S. aisle is exceedingly curious." It originally had two aisles on each side, but the outer aisles have been cut off by new streets. In *Ste. Croix* are some modern painted glass windows: the high altar was brought from Bec, and also 2 fine sepulchral slabs of Abbots—Wm. d'Auvillers, 1417, and Robert III. de Bec, 1430, in their grand robes, built into the W. wall of the church.

N. Dame de la Couture is a little way out of town, and a place of pilgrimage. It is a Gothic ch. of 14th and 15th cents., with some good stained glass of 15th and 16th cents.; *obs.* the unusual breadth of the transept, in which are traces of an earlier building.

10 m. **Lisieux** Junct. Stat. (*Inns:* H. de France; H. d'Espagne), a thriving manufacturing town (12,672 Inhab.), prettily situated at the junction of the valleys of the Touques and the Orbec, and well worth a visit. A considerable part of the population is employed in and around the town in weaving coarse woollens, flannels, &c. Its streets exhibit specimens of ancient domestic architecture, timber-framed houses and pointed gables, well suited to the artist's pencil. In the Rue aux Féves are the oldest and most curious houses.

The **Church of St. Pierre* (M.H.) (formerly cathedral) faces an open square, with its W. front flanked by 2 towers; the S. of 3 stages, mixed circ. and pointed, surmounted by a stone spire; the N. tower rebuilt, of one stage only, with long graceful openings. The interior is a good specimen of the Early Pointed style of the 13th cent., with lancet windows, holding a place between the Norman and the lancet Gothic of England, resembling Sens and the Choir of Canterbury. It was begun late in the 12th cent. and carried on to the 13th by Jourdain d'Hommet (d. 1218). After a fire in 1226 it was repaired by G. de Pont de l'Arche. Greatest part of


AEN
ray's Handbook.
N
W
E
S
Chemin de St Gabriel
Rue de Bayeux
Ch: of St Nicolas
REMONTE
Barracks
héâtre
(Abbaye aux Hommes)
Manoir des Gens d'Armes
to the Sea
Place Villers
Bon Sauveur (Lunatic Asylum)
Rue de Blanc
Petit Odon
Grand Odon
Ch. of St Ouen
e St Gilles
Prairie de
Cafarelli
ntalivet
lway from Cherbourg to Paris
Works
Rue des Marais
to Cherbourg
to Flers
Demi-Lune
R. de Dives
R. de Rouen
R. de Paris
Buildings
Ch: of St Pierre B.4
Hotel-Dieu (Abbaye aux Dames) B.5
Ch: of St Etienne & Lycée (Abbaye aux Hommes) C.2
Old Ch: of St Etienne C.3
Ch: of la Ste Trinité B.5
Ch: of St Julien B.3
Ch: of St Gilles B.5
Ch: of St Jean C.4
Ch: of Vaucelles (St Michel) E.D.4
Ch: of St Sauveur B.C.3
Ch: of St Nicolas B.2
Ch: of Notre Dame C.3
Ch: of St Ouen C.1.2
Protestant Church B.3
Bourse B.C.4
Hôtel de Ville C.3
Palais de l'Université B.3
Le Bon Sauveur C.1.2
Palais de Justice B.2
Musée des Antiquaires C.3
Hôtel de la Préfecture C.3
Poissonnerie B.4
Théâtre C.3
Railway Station D.5
Jardin des Plantes A.3
Hospital St Louis D.4
Abattoirs D.5
Amphithéâtre B.6
University B.3
1. Statue of Louis XIV C.3
Ecole Normale B.2
Edwd Weller.

nave, transepts, and choir of 13th cent. Part of choir and transepts are older. The *Lady Chapel* was founded, in the 15th cent., by Pierre Cauchon, Bishop of Beauvais, and president of the tribunal which condemned Jeanne d'Arc, in expiation of "his false judgment of an innocent woman," as he expressly states in the deed of endowment. Henry II. was married to Eleanor of Guienne, the divorced wife of Louis le Jeune, 1152, in this cathedral. Adjoining the *Sous-Préfecture*, once the Bishop's palace, is a large *garden*, thrown open to the public. *St. Jacques* is a fine ch., and has good 16th-cent. painted glass.

Lisieux was the capital of the *Lexovii*, a Gallic tribe mentioned by Cæsar, and ruins of the ancient town (*Noviomagus* l.) have been discovered at a short distance from the present one.

About 4 m. N. of the rly., after leaving Lisieux, is *Val Richer*, once celebrated for its Abbaye, founded in 1167, and of which Thomas à Becket was the first abbot, and where he retired during his exile from England. Some of his ecclesiastical vestments are preserved in the sacristy. The ruins have been converted into a handsome residence, the summer-retreat of the late M. Guizot, the eminent writer and statesman, who is buried in the Protestant corner of the village ch.-yard (d. 1874).

The *Castle of St. Germain-de-Livet* (4 m.) in the valley of the Touques, is a singular pile of towers and turrets and bartizans, part brick, part timber.

[Rly. N. to Pont l'Evêque, and thence branches to Pont Audemer, Honfleur, and Trouville, Rte. 23. Rly. E. *in progress* to Laigle, completed as far as 14 m. *Orbec*, a town of 3000 Inhab., containing a *Ch.* dating from the 15th cent., and some curious old houses.]

11 m. *Mesnil-Mauger* Stat. About 2 m. S. is the village of *Ste. Marie aux Anglais*, with curious Romanesque *Ch.* (M.H.)

5 m. *Mézidon* Junct. Stat. (Buffet.) (*Inns:* H. Ste. Barbe; H. Grace de Dieu.) Omnibus from rly., which is about a mile from the town at *Breuil*, where is a *Ch.* (12th to 15th cent.), and a modern *Castle*. [Rly. to Le Mans by Argentan, &c., branches off on l. (Rte. 29).]

5 m. *Moult-Argences* Stat. Beyond this, at the village of *Vimont*, a column has been erected (in 1841) to commemorate the battle of the *Val-es-Dunes*, where William the Conqueror defeated the revolted barons in 1047. The site of the battle is at a short distance S.W. of Vimont.

9 m. **Caen** Junct. Stat. (Buffet.) Omnibus (50 c.), and fiacres (1 fr. 50 c.) from Rly. (*Inns*—none first-rate: H. de la Place Royale, tolerable; H. Ste. Barbe; H. de la Victoire, in the Place St. Pierre, small but clean; H. d'Angleterre, dirty, and bad smells; H. d'Espagne, fallen off, though *table-d'hôte* good; H. de France, near Stat.)

This chief town of the Dépt. du Calvados (so named from a long reef of rocks on its coast, on which a Spanish vessel, the Calvădós, was wrecked in the reign of Philippe II.) is situated on the Orne, 10 m. from its mouth, and has 43,740 Inhab. A smaller stream, the Odon, passes through the town and around the line of its old ramparts, to which it served as a fosse, turning several mills before it joins the Orne. Notwithstanding the antiquity of Caen, its wide streets, its large central square, in which stands the statue of Louis XIV., and its houses of white stone, give it a cheerful air.

The numerous specimens of mediæval architecture at Caen will require at least a day, and may be visited in the following topographical order: *Ch. of St. Jean, Ch. of St. Pierre, the Bourse, the Castle, Abbaye aux Dames, Ch. of St. Sauveur, Abbaye aux Hommes, Hotel de Ville.*

Near the centre of the town, on one side of a public garden, rises the *Ch. of St. Pierre* (M. H.), surmounted by one of the most graceful towers and spires, in the complete Gothic style, which Normandy can produce; the middle storey, formed of tall lancet windows framed within reeded mouldings, is a model of strength and lightness. Its spire of stone, partly pierced à jour, was built in 1308, and is 242 ft. high. The nave was constructed pro-

bably about the same time, the choir, more richly ornamented, rather later; while its roof and the chapels surrounding the choir were added in 1521. The groining of the roof of the choir is surpassed in extravagance in the chapels, where it assumes the form of pendent fringes, giving the roof a cellular character. The side walls of these chapels are pierced with arches and decorated with statues. Some of the capitals of the columns in the nave exhibit ludicrous carvings, such as Aristotle bridled and ridden by the mistress of Alexander, and Lancelot crossing the sea on his sword, from the old romances.

Caen possesses two very remarkable monuments of the piety of William the Conqueror and his queen—or rather of their desire to appease the Pope for contracting a marriage within the prohibited degrees—in the churches of the Abbayes, aux Hommes and aux Dames: both founded 1066, although they now retain but small portions of the original buildings.

The **Ch. of St. Étienne* (M. H.), or of the *Abbaye aux Hommes*, destined by the Conqueror as a resting-place for his own remains, was finished and dedicated by him in his lifetime, 1077, under Archbishop Lanfranc, who was the first abbot. The W. front is so perfectly and severely plain that it will probably disappoint expectations. It and the 2 stately W. towers were built probably c. 1096, and may be regarded as the prototype of the façades of a great part of the Gothic Cathedrals of France. The spires and choir were added in the beginning of the 13th cent. The interior of the nave exhibits the rigid severity and massive strength, with the grandeur of proportion, of the Normano-Romanesque style. *Obs.* in the sacristy an ancient portrait of William the Conqueror (? 15th or 16th cent.). The ch. is 349 ft. long and 68½ ft. high. The lower row of arches supports a gallery, having arches of equal span and ⅔ of the height of those below. The clerestory windows consist of a tall and short arch placed alternately on one side or the other to meet the curve of the vault, an addition of the 12th cent. The choir, ending in an apse, and surrounded by chapels, is in the pointed Gothic style of the beginning of the 13th cent. A plain grey marble slab in the pavement before the high altar marks the *grave of William the Conqueror*, but it has been long empty: it was broken open, the costly monument erected over it by William Rufus destroyed, and the bones scattered, by the Huguenots, 1562, and lost without record, except one thigh-bone, which was re-interred. The Revolutionists of 1793 again violated the grave, when this also disappeared.

The funeral of the Conqueror, undertaken by the charity of a simple knight, as already detailed (Rte. 8, Rouen), was singularly interrupted, even within the precincts of the ch., and before the service for the dead was concluded, by a cry from one of the bystanders, a man named Asselin, who claimed the site of the grave, saying that it occupied the place of his father's house, that he had been illegally ejected from it in order to build the ch., and he demanded the restitution of his property. This claim, thus boldly made, in the presence of the dead monarch's son Henry, the chief mourner, being backed by the assent of the townspeople, who stood by, was not to be denied or rejected, and the bishop was obliged to pay on the spot 60 sous for the place of sepulture for the royal corpse. Even then it is related that, as the coffin was being lowered into the grave, it struck against some obstacle, fell, and was broken into pieces, so that the corpse, ejected from its tenement, diffused so horrible a stench through the ch. that the rites were hurried to a close, and the assembled priests and laity dispersed.

The exterior of this ch. surmounted by its 2 W. towers, its central octagonal tower, and 4 turrets on the E., has a peculiarly striking effect from a distance, and reminds one of the arrangements of some of those on the Rhine.

A portion of the building occupied since 1800 by the *Lycée* and *Ecole Normale* is Gothic (14th cent.), and occu-

pies the site of the old Norman Palace, called Grand Palais. The ancient hall called *Salle des Gardes*, of the 13th or 14th century, still exists in part.

At the opposite end of the town, on the heights of St. Gilles, is the *Ch.* of *la Ste. Trinité* (M.H.), or of the *Abbaye aux Dames*, founded and consecrated 1066, though probably unfinished, by the Conqueror's queen, Matilda, and destined by her for a nunnery of noble ladies. The whole is now completely restored.

The choir of the ch. is walled off for the use of the Sisters who attend on the sick. (Apply to porter at entrance to hospital adjoining W. front.) The ch., in the lighter and more ornate character of its architecture, displays a contrast with the massive plainness of St. Étienne. It is doubtful whether anything but the core of the walls is of the Conqueror's time; the rest is apparently of the end of the 11th and middle of 12th cent. With the exception of the upper part of the W. towers this edifice is a good specimen of Norman Romanesque. It has been restored, and in some respects altered. The choir, ending in an apse, is of the same age and style as the nave. The piers are lighter, the engaged pillars project more, than in St. Étienne, the embattled fret here runs round the main arches, and instead of a lofty triforium the walls above them decorated with a blank arcade of small circular arches, and above these is a passage in the clerestory supported by misproportioned pillars, exhibiting grotesque figures among the foliage of their capitals. The arches under the central tower are remarkably bold, and their archivolts are chased with the Norman lozenge. The one opening into the nave is obtusely pointed, but apparently of the same date. The choir of the nuns ends in a semicircle of double arches, one tier over the other; inclosed in the centre is the tomb, restored in 1819, of Queen Matilda, with an inscription on it in letters of the 11th cent. The original black marble *grave-stone* was broken in pieces by the Calvinists, who dispersed her remains, which, however, were collected some years after. Underneath is a *crypt* resting on 34 pillars. It was formerly the burying-place of the abbesses of the convent. It is well worth while to attend vespers at the Abbey.

The conventual buildings attached to the ch. are modern (1726), and have been converted into a *Hospital* (*Hôtel Dieu*).

For the student of ancient architecture the following churches well deserve to be visited. Not far from St. Étienne is *St. Nicholas* (M.H.), another interesting ch. in the circular style, of the end of the 12th cent.; it is now a hay-store belonging to the cavalry. It is unaltered, plain in style, and ends in an apse: which retains its original steep conic stone roof.

St. Étienne le Vieux, opposite the Lycée, is a fine specimen of pointed Gothic of the 15th cent., and has been restored.

St. Julien and *St. Gilles*, partly demolished (nave 12th, vault 15th cent.), will interest the architect.

St. Jean (M.H.), of the 14th and 15th cents., has two unequal in height and unfinished towers, in the late Pointed style. The upper part of the central tower is Italianized Gothic, unfinished and later (16th cent.) than the W. tower. *Obs.* 2 windows in the N. transept.

St. Sauveur, in the Rue Notre Dame, is externally a fine specimen of late Gothic, almost Renaissance, interior plain.

St. Michel, in the suburb of Vaucelles, is of late date, but retains interesting remains of earlier work. The Norman tower and the very long but narrow and round-headed windows deserve notice. The fringed portal is surmounted by a gable filled with Flamboyant tracery, in the style of the 15th or 16th cent.

There are many old houses, with curiously ornamented fronts of the 15th and 16th cents.: in the Cour de la Monnaie; Hôtel de Than, in the Rue St. Pierre; and 2 timber-framed houses, Rue de la Geôle and Rue N. Dame; but they are fast disappearing.

The Hôtel de Valois, Place St. Pierre, now the *Bourse*, is in the Italian style of the 16th cent.

The *Castle*, surmounting the height to the W. of St. Pierre, built by William the Conqueror and his son Henry —held for a long period by the English, but finally taken from them by Dunois, who compelled the Duke of Somerset with a garrison of 4000 men to surrender (1459)—has now the aspect of a modern fortress; but having been dismantled by a decree of the Convention, it is at present used as a barrack. The only Norman portions remaining are the small *Chapel of St. George*, whose nave is probably of the 11th cent.; while the chancel, separated from it by a bold arch, is of the 15th. A very interesting Norman hall has been ascertained to have been the original *Hall of the Exchequer of Normandy*, of the time of William the Conqueror. Both these buildings are now used as storehouses. From the ramparts of the castle there is a good view of the town.

In the *Hôtel de Ville*, which occupies with its classical portico one side of the Place Royale, is an interesting *Collection of Paintings*. A genuine *Perugino, The Marriage of the Virgin (formerly in the Cathedral at Perugia, from which it was carried off by the French);—the Passage of the Rhine, by *Van der Meulen*;—Melchizedec offering bread and wine to Abraham, *Rubens*;—the Virgin with 3 Saints, by some old master, called *Albrecht Dürer*. Here is also the Library of 60,000 vols.

In the *Cabinet d'Histoire naturelle* in the Palais de l'Université, Rue de la Chaine, is a collection of the fossils of Normandy, including Ichthyosauri, Plesiosauri, and a very perfect crocodile from the neighbouring quarries of l'Allemagne. A part of the collections made by Admiral Dumont d'Urville, during his memorable voyages of circumnavigation, have been deposited here.

The *English Church Service* is performed on Sundays at 9·45 and 2·45, in the French Protestant *Temple*, Rue de Geole.

The *Poste aux Lettres* is in the Rue de l'Hôtel de Ville.

Caen is well provided with *promenades*, formal avenues of trees;—the chief are the Grand and Petit Cours, and the Cours Montalivet and Cafarelli, by the side of the Orne. The handsome *quais* bordering the Orne and the Odon near their junction form pleasant walks.

The principal street, in which are the best shops, is the Rue St. Jean.

Froissart narrates the story of the capture of Caen in 1346, a short while before the battle of Crécy, by Edward III. and the Black Prince, who, being irritated by the resistance of the citizens, gave it up to plunder. It was then "large, strong, and full of drapery and all sorts of merchandise, rich citizens, noble dames, damsels, and fine churches." The English fleet returned home laden with its spoils.

Several of the leaders of the party of the Girondins, proscribed by the Jacobins of the revolutionary tribunal, and driven from Paris by the insurrection of May 31, 1793, retired to Caen to organise a revolt against the tyranny of the Mountain, but were entirely defeated and put down in a battle at Vernon. It was shortly after this event that Charlotte Corday (a native of St. Saturnin, near Séez), excited by the spirit of resistance against the tyranny of the Terrorists, which prevailed strongly at Caen, set out hence to Paris to assassinate Marat. The Girondins used to meet in the Hotel, No. 44 Rue des Carmes.

Among the illustrious natives of Caen, the learned Huet, bishop of Avranches, born 1613, may be mentioned; the poets Clement Marot, Malherbe, Malfilâtre, and Ségrais; the Oriental scholar Bochart; and the modern composer Auber.

Brummel, *the* Beau par excellence of the court of George IV. when regent, lived for many years at Caen, and ended his days here in a lunatic asylum (*l'Hospice du Bon Sauveur*, an establishment which does credit to Normandy, and can receive 1600 patients); Bourienne, secretary and early friend of Napoleon I., died in the same asylum.

A *statue* by Rochet of the geologist *Elie de Beaumont* was erected 1876 on the Place St. Sauveur.

Since 1850 Caen has become a place of considerable trade, owing to the rlys. leading to the interior, and the improvements of its port, which extends along the river front called the Quai Juillet, with the Bassin à flot, which can admit vessels drawing 16 ft. water, and communicates with the sea by a wide canal that opens into it at Ouistrehan, 2 m. W. of the mouth of the Orne.

Railways—to Paris; to Bayeux and Cherbourg (Rte. 26); to Honfleur (Rte. 23); to Alençon, Le Mans, Angers, and Tours; to Flers, for Laval or Granville; and a short line now runs N. to the sea-coast (see below). The Rly. Stat. is close to the Orne and the Quai Juillet.

Steamer to Havre daily.

The *making of lace*, principally black, is said to occupy 20,000 women and children in and about Caen. The streets of the suburbs are lined with family parties seated round their cottage doors merrily twirling their bobbins. With this exception Caen has no claim to be a manufacturing town; though it was so in an eminent degree until the revocation of the Edict of Nantes banished all its most industrious artisans.

Environs.—A cabriolet or other carriages may be hired for excursions at fixed prices at the office next to the Hôtel d'Espagne.

The student of ancient architecture might spend many days profitably and agreeably in visiting the ecclesiastical and civil monuments which abound in the neighbourhood of Caen. The Dépt. du Calvădós is particularly rich in monuments of architecture; the distinguished archæologist of Caen, M. de Caumont, enumerates nearly 70 specimens of the Norman architecture of the 11th and 12th centuries existing in it.

a. On the outskirts of Caen, to the E., at the extremity of the Rue Basse St. Gilles, is a singular castellated mansion called *Les Gens d'Armes*, from 2 stone figures of armed men on the top. Though surrounded by battlemented walls and furnished with towers, it was not built as a place of defence, but as a maison de plaisance for one Gerard de Nollent, in the time of Louis XII. Its walls are fantastically ornamented externally with medallion heads of emperors, &c.

b. 4 m. from Caen, rt. of the road to Bayeux (2 m. by a path leaving Rue de Bayeux rt., beyond the Octroi, and crossing the fields), are the beautiful remains of the **Abbaye d'Ardenne*, a well-preserved Gothic church and abbey buildings, partly ruined, now farm offices. There is a fine gate-tower with a round-headed gate and pointed wicket, large stables, "a buttressed barn which puts to utter shame the largest of our edifices of this kind." The beautiful *Ch.* closely resembles in style the early English of our abbeys of Bolton and Newstead. Its W. front is especially noticeable; it has a rose within a pointed window, and a rich porch supported "on detached shafts." The *Castle of Creuilly* is a picturesque ruin, also on the rt. of the road to Bayeux.

c. The Chemin de fer de Caen à la Mer is now open (5 trains daily) along the coast W. of the Orne to the succession of small watering-places on fine firm sands much frequented during the summer, each having an Etablissement. It passes through *Douvres* and *La Delivrande* to

10 m. *Luc-sur-Mer* (*Inns:* H. de la Belle Plage; H. de Ste. Helène). The *Ch.* here is of the 12th cent. [*Lion-sur-Mer* lies to the E. of this, 10 m. from Caen (H. du Calvados), with a good Renaissance *Ch.* and 11th-cent. tower.] The next Stat. is *Langrune* (H. Bellevue), then *St. Aubin-sur-Mer* (H. de St. Aubin; H. de Paris)—most of the houses being on the shore, people bathe from their own doors; *Bernières*, fine *Ch.*, with porch and tower of 13th cent. *Corseulles*, 12 miles from Caen, a small fishing port facing the dangerous rocks of Calvădós, which, however, are only visible at the lowest ebb of spring tides. It is famed for its oysters. Paris receives from the "parcs aux huîtres" a large proportion of those it consumes. The facilities for sea-bathing have raised this little

village to 1600 Inhab. (*Inns:* H. des Etrangers; H. de la Poste.)

d. About 2 m. to the N. of Caen is a range of high table-land, on the summit of which is a *calvaire*, or crucifix. "The traveller will not fail to linger on the little hill just beyond the first crucifix. Here he will enjoy a lovely prospect. The horizon is bounded by long lines of grey and purple hills: nearer are fields and pastures, whilst the river glitters and winds amidst their vivid tints; nearer still the city of Caen extends itself."

7½ m. *Thaon.* Here is a *Church*, of the exact character of the Norman of England, scarcely altered since the 11th cent., when it was built, excepting the loss of its aisles. It is a good deal ornamented. The tower is capped with a hollow pyramid of stone, one of the oldest examples of the nascent spire known. It is now deserted.

1¼ m. farther to the N. is the interesting *Château of Fontaine-Henri*, once a seat of the Harcourt family, built in the early part of the 16th cent., partly in the bastard Gothic, corresponding more with the late Elizabethan of England, partly in the Italian style, resembling the revived classic architecture of Audley End and Longleat. It is a mansion of no great size, but is distinguished by a preposterously lofty and steeply pitched roof, surmounting one wing, flanked by an equally lofty chimney. The most profuse decoration of sculpture is lavished on its singularly irregular façade. The ornaments of the windows, the panelling, balustrades, &c., are not inferior to those of the Palais de Justice at Rouen, which they much resemble. The interior is not shown. The *Ch.* of the village is partly Norman.

A second steep ascent, surmounted by another Calvary, commands a view over the sea, including 6 or 8 village spires, all having a strong family likeness to that of St. Pierre at Caen. A steep descent of about a mile will bring the tourist to the chapel of *La Délivrande*, to which the Norman sailors and peasants have resorted for the last 800 years. It is a small Norman edifice. The statue of the Virgin, which now commands the veneration of the faithful, was dug up in the reign of Henry I. from the ruins of a previous chapel destroyed by the Northmen, through the agency of a lamb constantly grubbing up the earth over the spot where it lay. Such is the legend. The reputation of the image for performing miracles, especially in behalf of sailors, has been maintained from that time to the present, although it suffered much at the Revolution, when pilgrimages were forbidden. A nunnery has been recently founded here by a pious lady of the Ossouville family.

e. The *Church of Ifs*, about 3 m. S. of Caen, has a curious Early Pointed steeple; but a more remarkable ch.-tower and spire exists at Norrey, on the way to Bayeux (Rte. 26), alone worth the journey from England to an architect.

f. The *quarries of Caen stone* have long furnished England with building materials, and during the middle ages the White Tower, old London Bridge, Henry VII.'s Chapel, Winchester, Canterbury and Carlisle cathedrals, besides many of our country churches, were built of it. They are situated within the circuit of 1½ m. to the W. and S. of Caen, near la Maladrerie, on the road to Bayeux, and at Haute Allemagne. The rock is an oolite, equivalent to our Stonesfield slate, but without its slaty structure; it is extracted from subterranean quarries through vertical shafts, in blocks of considerable size. It is much employed in England, especially for decorative purposes.

g. A very interesting excursion may be made from Caen to Trouville (27 m.), visiting all the intermediate watering-places E. of the mouth of the Orne, now so much resorted to. *Cabourg* (*Inn:* H. de la Plage), at the mouth of the Dives (15 m.), possesses a handsome Casino, and all the attributes of a fashionable bathing-place, and good sands. From it an old wooden bridge leads to, 1½ m.,

Dives (*Inn:* H. de Guillaume le Conquérant, good, a curious old *Inn*, a part of it of the 16th cent., with out-

side galleries leading to the rooms; the one occupied by Madame de Sévigné is shown here; its owner, M. le Rémois, has a collection of fossils from the rocks called Les Vaches Noires, between Houlgate and Villers.) It was at Dives that William the Conqueror tarried for a month to collect his fleet of 3000 vessels and 50,000 men, before setting out for the conquest of England; a shabby *column* was set up, 1861, below the château of M. de Careil to commemorate the event. There is a fine view from it over the valley of the Beuzeval. The sea has retired more than a mile from Dives, and its small harbour is choked up. The *Ch. of Notre Dame* (M. H.) of the 14th, with some remains of the 11th cent., is under repair: *obs.* the sculpture of the W. portal, and the list, over the principal door, of the names of the chiefs who followed William to England.

Beuzeval. A Protestant colony occupies this quiet little watering-place. They have a house, "Maison Evangelique," where Protestants are taken in to board at a low rate, all living in common. About ½ m. farther is

Houlgate (*Inn:* H. de la Plage), another small watering-place, with gay châlets and fantastic houses for visitors. Both this and Beuzeval are in pretty situations. From here the road runs inland, passing on rt. the fine Renaissance château of M. Lecesne in a fine park.

Villers-sur-Mer (*Inn?* H. Bras d'Or), one of the largest and most frequented bathing-stations on this coast, and not so expensive as Trouville and Deauville, with a casino, pretty villas, châteaux in the Louis XIV. style. From this the road continues to Deauville and Trouville (Rte. 23).

Another antiquarian and architectural excursion may be made on the way to Bayeux, to Frèsne-Camilly, Creuilly, and St. Gabriel (Rte. 26).

ROUTE 26.

CAEN TO CHERBOURG; BAYEUX—RAIL.

Caen	Kil.	Miles.
Bayeux	30	19
Lison Junct.	57	36
Carentan	75	47
Valognes	104	68
Cherbourg	135	84

Time, 3 to 4 hrs.; *trains*, 4 daily.

[Paris to Caen, 150 m. (Rte. 25); to Cherbourg, 234 m. Through trains from Paris to Cherbourg in 8½ to 13 hrs.]

The rly. from Caen was constructed by the English contractor Brassey, and was opened in Aug. 1858, on the occasion of Queen Victoria and Napoleon III. visiting Cherbourg.

2 m. beyond Caen, on the carriage-road, is *la Maladrerie*, so called from a lazar-house founded by our Henry II. for lepers of the town of Caen, now replaced by the huge penitentiary (Maison Centrale de Détention) of Beaulieu. Just before reaching this on the same side of the road *obs.* a small Norman chapel with a rich doorway, and near this may be perceived the whims or wheels by which the Caen stone is raised from the quarries. The Orne is crossed.

8 m. *Bretteville-Norrey* Stat. (*Inn:* H. Grand Monarque). The *Ch.* (M.H.) has a handsome steeple and early Gothic choir.

Conspicuous on the l., about 1 m. off the road, is the fine open belfry and spire of *Norrey* (village of 343 Inhab.) This beautiful **Church*, which has been termed a miniature cathedral, is in the pure and simple Gothic style of our early English, and of the most elegant proportions, with an enriched choir, circular apse, and N. porch. "All the mouldings are deep, free, and repeated so as to give the greatest strength of line to all its parts." The tower owes its character of unequalled beauty to the 4 narrow and tall lancet arches which occupy the N. face of its belfry-storey. It is well worth a visit.

[In going from Caen to Bayeux a détour might be made to visit *Frèsne Camilly*, a church in the Transition

style, round arches prevailing in the body of the building, with indications of pointed arches in a panelled arcade on the exterior of the N. wall. At *Creully* the *Castle*, a construction of different ages, retains, among more modern additions, 2 round towers. It belonged to Robert of Gloucester, natural son of Henry I., and is now converted into a private dwelling. The church is genuine Norman. A little farther is *St. Gabriel*, a ruined priory, founded by Robert of Gloucester, 1128: the choir of the church alone remains, and is a very remarkable example of florid Norman.

There is a road from Bretteville to the Castle of Creully, passing by Sacqueville en Bessin, whose *Church* is curious, partly pointed, partly round.]

11 m. **Bayeux** Stat. (*Inns:* H. du Luxembourg; Grand Hotel; small but clean and comfortable), a quiet and dull ecclesiastical city, was anciently capital of the Bessin, and is supposed to stand on the site of the Roman *Augustodorus*. It contains 9138 Inhab., and is washed by a small stream, the Aure, which enters the sea at 5 m. distance. It may be seen in about 3 hrs., and consists of two main streets, including some ancient specimens of mediæval domestic architecture, running up a hill to a large open *Place*, lined with trees. Its curiosities are the *Tapestry* and the

**Cathedral* (M. H.), its chief ornament, completely restored with care and taste. The original ch., having been burned down, 1046, was rebuilt in the time of William the Conqueror (1077); the present edifice dates from 1106, with many subsequent additions and changes. The W. front is a fine elevation, in pointed Gothic of 13th cent. flanked by 2 steeples, 252 ft., of the 12th cent., in the towers of which pointed arches alternate with round. The 3 *porches* which, as well as that on the S. side, deserve attention for their bas-reliefs and ornamental foliage, are of the 13th cent., and florid in style. The interior is 335 ft. long and 74·9 high. The lower part of the *nave* (early 12th cent.) consists of fine circular arches and piers, whose heaviness is relieved by the beautifully-diapered patterns wrought upon the wall. Above runs a low trefoiled arcade as a balustrade to a triforium, surmounted by a clerestory of lofty and narrow windows of 2 lights. The whole of this work is of the 13th cent., and the contrast between these attenuated forms and the solid grandeur of the basement is not agreeable. The arches of the crossing and the *choir* are of the same period as the nave clerestory, and are distinguished by the remarkable elegance of their clustered pillars. They were built by Bishop Henry de Beaumont, an Englishman, 1205. The circular ornaments in the spandrels of the arches are pleasing and of fanciful variety. The *stalls* are of oak, well carved. The chapels in the side-aisles, and the exterior of the E. end, should not pass unnoticed. Owing to subsidences in the central piers, the tower (312 ft. high, and should be ascended on account of the view) was taken down about 1846, and rebuilt. Under the choir is a *crypt*, probably the only part remaining of the original ch., built, in 1077, by Odo, half-brother of the Conqueror, and fifty years bishop of Bayeux. It is supported on 12 pillars with rude capitals, and contains some episcopal tombs. In the *Trésor* is preserved the chasuble of St. Regnobert, in a casket of ivory, with enamelled ornaments, both apparently of Oriental workmanship, gifts of St. Louis. In a chapel on N. side is a statue of St. Peter by H. Dupont, 1872.

The student of architecture may visit with profit the *Chapel of the Séminaire*, adjoining the *Hôtel Dieu*, a simple oblong plain groined hall, lighted by double lancet windows, early English in character, and not unlike the E. end of our Temple Church: its date is 1206. Behind the altar is a singular recess, beautifully groined.

The **Tapisserie de Bayeux* has been removed from the Hôtel de Ville—where it used to be unwound from a roller, and subjected to the fingers as well as eyes of the curious—to a room in the *Public Library* (open 8 A.M. to 4 P.M.), where it is carefully

preserved, and exhibited, under a glass covering. It is a strip of coarse linen cloth, 20 inches wide and 213 ft. long, rudely worked with figures worthy of a girl's sampler. It is, however, a curious historical record of peculiar interest to an Englishman; and, although it presents such anomalies as horses coloured alternately blue and red, there is much spirit in the drawing. It is ascribed, with much probability, to the fingers of Matilda, Queen of the Conqueror, and represents the Conquest of England, and events which led to it. It was preserved in the cathedral until the Revolution, being hung round the nave on certain days. The earliest record of it is in an inventory of the effects of the church, taken 1476. It consists of 58 rude pictures with explanatory inscriptions in Latin beneath each. The leading historical events portrayed are (1) Edward the Confessor designating William as his heir; (23) Harold taking an oath to support William's claim to the Crown; (28) the death of Edward; (30) crowning of Harold by Archbishop Stigand; (38) arrival of William at Pevensey; (51) beginning of battle of Hastings; (52) death of Harold's brothers, Leofwin and Gurth; (54) Odo, Bishop of Bayeux and half-brother of William, encouraging the Normans; (57) death of Harold. The design has evidently been to represent Harold as a usurper, and William as the rightful heir to the crown, having other claims besides that of conquest. The Normans are drawn with shaven heads and chins, in scale-armour, helmets protected by nose-pieces, and shields shaped like flying kites, sometimes bearing devices of crests (supposed to be of later invention) suspended by a belt round the neck. All the buildings have round arches. At the bottom runs a curious border of animals, including camels and elephants. The tapestry has been excellently engraved for the London Society of Antiquaries by the late Charles Stothard. When Napoleon was meditating the invasion of England, he caused this tapestry to be transported from town to town, and exhibited on the stage of the playhouses between the acts, to stimulate the spectators to a second conquest!

Wace, the author of the Roman de Rou, was a canon of this cathedral. According to it Harold actually did homage to William of Normandy, as heir of Edward the Confessor, for the throne of England. Many of the women about Bayeux still wear the Bourgogne or Bavolette, a rich and high head-dress, resembling that worn at the courts of the Dukes of Burgundy.

A *statue* by Harivel du Rocher of *Arcisse de Caumont* was erected 1876 in the courtyard of the Hotel de Ville.

In the outskirts of the town stands the little *Ch. of St. Loup*, with towers and early square spire of 12th cent.

There are good *Baths* at the side of the river, and near them a pretty *Nursery Garden*.

Near the road running S.W. from Bayeux to 23 m. St. Lo, is *Cérisy la Forêt*, with a fine Romanesque *Ch.*, begun in 1030, and finished by the Conqueror.

Leaving the stat., a little N. of the line is the town of Frevières; and 2 m. farther on the road to Carentan,

Formigny, where the English were defeated (1450) in an engagement so decisive, that it occasioned them the loss of Normandy, which they had held since 1417, and which has never since been separated from the French monarchy. A monument on the rt. of the road marks the battle-field, and commemorates the victory. It must be borne in mind that Sir Thomas Kyriel, who commanded the English, an old soldier of Agincourt, who took little account of superior numbers on the side of the French, attacked, with a vastly inferior force, the army of the Comte de Clermont, and while thus engaged was assaulted in the rear by a second army, under the Constable de Richemont.

8 m. *Lison* Junct. Stat. [Branch rly. to St. Lo (11 m.). (Rte. 27.)]

6 m. *Isigny* Stat., on the Aure, is accessible for vessels of considerable size, with the tide. The country around is celebrated for its butter, much of which, with vast numbers of eggs, are exported hence to England.

The river Vire, forming the boundary

between the departments of Calvados and La Manche, is crossed by an iron bridge 125 feet long.

6 m. **Carentan** Stat. (*Inn:* H. d'Angleterre, dear), a town of 3056 Inhab., in a low marshy situation. Its feudal fortifications exist no longer, but it possesses an old *Castle*, which belonged to the Kings of France, and was besieged by Edward III. (1346), and a handsome *Church*, surmounted by a spire. It is Norman, but "the arches of the central lantern and the pillars of the nave have been ingeniously lengthened, and made to bear pointed arches." The E. end is in the style of the 14th cent.

Diligences to Coutances (21 m.), by *Périers* (11 m.) (H. de la Croix Blanche), whose *Church* (M. H.) is one of the finest ecclesiastical memorials in the Department, 14–16th cent. 7 m. N.W. of Périers is *Lessay*, a village of 1600 Inhab., possessing an "almost untouched Norman minster, though a good deal of the vaulting was most ingeniously repaired after the English wars." The abbey buildings are of the 17th cent.

At Carentan we enter the peninsula of the *Cotentin*, a name said to be a corruption of that of "*pagus Constantinus*," as this northern promontory of Gaul was called, just as Coutances is said to be a corruption of *Constantia*. It is a fertile district, celebrated for its pastures, on which large herds are fed, everywhere inclosed within hedges, and abounding in ruined castles and ancient churches. It is particularly interesting to Englishmen, as the cradle of some of the most noble of our English families. At every step the traveller will encounter obscure villages and hamlets, whose names are familiar to him as household words, as patronymics of great houses distinguished in French and English annals, most of whose founders left their country in the train of William the Norman. Such are Beaumonts, Grevilles, Carterets, Bruces, Nevilles, Bohuns, Percis, Pierponts. The geology of the Cotentin is very interesting; its tertiary beds, in which more than 300 species of fossil shells, identical with those of the Paris Basin, have been found, and its Baculite limestone, may be well studied in the quarries near Valognes.

Across marshes nearly all the way to 7 m. *Chef du Pont* Stat. 2½ m. rt. is the village of

Ste. Mère Eglise, with a similar *Ch.* (M. H.) to that of Carentan.

6 m. *Montebourg* Stat.

[At *Quinéville*, 6 m. N.E. of this, on the coast, is an ancient monument of masonry, 27 ft. high, and 30 in circumference at the base, which *is* square, and surmounted by a hollow cylinder surrounded with 2 rows of pillars. It is called *la Grande Cheminée*; and though some writers have described it as a Roman monument, it is more probably a structure of the end of the 12th cent., and served as a chimney.

From the heights of Quinéville King James II. beheld the *sea-fight* of *La Hougue*, which destroyed all his hopes of regaining the throne. (See La Hougue below.)]

The rly. continues through a pleasing country, to which the hedges and woodlands give a perfectly English character, to

5 m. *Valognes* Stat. (*Inn:* H. du Louvre), a pleasant town of 5406 Inhab., supposed to stand on the site of the Roman *Allonia*, with "endless fragments of old domestic architecture, remnants of the days when Valognes was a large and aristocratic town." It contains some large and handsome mansions, the residence of numerous old families. The *Ch.*, of the 13th cent., is singular, having a Gothic cupola of 1612, and a spire of later date by the side. The castle of William the Conqueror, one of his favourite dwelling-places, is demolished; it was here that he was warned by his son, in the middle of the night, of the conspiracy of the Seigneurs of the Bessin and Cotentin to surprise and assassinate him. He instantly mounted his horse, and escaped with difficulty to Falaise.

There is a small local Museum, in which is preserved a Merovingian altar of 667, and there are vestiges of some Roman ruins about the town.

[Although Valognes possesses nothing in itself to detain the traveller, in its vicinity are several objects of interest.

Octeville, where is a Norman *Ch.* with an octagonal tower and curious carvings (a Last Supper, &c., in bas-relief) older than the reign of Henry II.; with slender half-pillars, supporting Ionic capitals, outside its semicircular E. end, and a cornice of grotesque heads under its eaves: its lofty stone vaulted roof is supported on horse-shoe arches.

At *Alleaume*, a village contiguous to Valognes, are very scanty remains of a bath. A Roman theatre, described by Montfaucon, has totally disappeared.

Omnibus from Valognes Stat., passing near Colomby (a *Ch.* with pointed lancet windows), to *Saint Sauveur le Vicomte* (H. du Soleil Levant), on the Douve, 2600 Inhab., 10 m. S. of Valognes, where there is a picturesque and imposing **Castle* (M.H.) of the Tessons and Harcourts, but given by Edward III. after the treaty of Bretigny to Sir John Chandos, one of the most famous captains in the wars of Edward III. and the Black Prince. He built one of the gateways, and other portions; but the huge square and lofty keep-tower belongs to the earlier structure. Fine *view* from the top. It is the best preserved feudal fortress on the Continent. In the 17th century it became a hospice, and continues such down to the present. The beautiful *Benedictine Ch.*, the groundwork Norman (1067–1160), with additions in the pointed style of the 13th cent., was destroyed in the Revolution, but has been entirely rebuilt after the original model by the Sœurs de la Miséricorde, who occupy the abbey building.

Between St. Sauveur and Périers is the *Abbey of Blanchelande*, founded by Richard de la Haye, a favourite of Henry II. (1115–85) who had been captured by corsairs, and passed many years in slavery. It is beautifully situated, and consists of the abbot's house, still perfect and inhabited by a farmer, and part of the *Church*, in which late insertions have been added to an original Norman structure.

An omnibus runs from Valognes to *St. Vaast La Hougue*, and *Barfleur*, by Tamerville (2¼ m.), where the Norman *Ch.* has an elegant octagonal tower composed of 3 storeys of narrow round-headed arcades and windows. *St. Vaast la Hougue* (*Inn:* H. de France, small but comfortable), 12 m. N. of Valognes, is a seaport of 4162 Inhab., situated in a fine bay, with the fortified island and lazaret of Tatihou in front, provided with a pier 984 ft. long. Previous to the rise of Cherbourg it was the chief port of the Cotentin. Vauban proposed to make it what Cherbourg is, the chief arsenal of France on the Channel, but the project was abandoned, owing to the difficulty of getting out of its port with a N. wind. The English frequently effected landings here, to lay desolate the fair fields of France. King Stephen, in 1137, landed here, and the army which conquered at Crécy under Edward III. in 1346. Other armaments disembarked here in the reigns of Henries IV. and V.; and in 1574 a force of 5000 French and English Protestants, despatched by Queen Elizabeth under the Comte de Montgomery, to aid the cause of the Huguenots, made a descent upon Normandy at this point. La Hougue is chiefly known in English history, however, on account of the *sea-fight* of *Cap la Hougue* in 1692, when the united English and Dutch ships, under Admirals Russell and Rooke, annihilated the expedition prepared by Louis XIV. for a descent upon England, with the design of restoring James II. to the throne. The action commenced at some distance from the coast between Cape Barfleur and the Isle of Wight. The French admiral, Tourville, a man of great bravery, having orders from his master to engage at all odds, ventured to measure his strength with a fleet of 80 vessels, the largest which had entered the Channel since the Armada, while his own force did not exceed 44. It is supposed that he was ignorant of the junction of the Dutch, and that he counted on the desertion of Admiral Russell, who, it is well known, was in secret corre-

spondence with James. However, nothing of this sort occurred; and, after a running fight, the French, in 3 divisions, retired to their own coast, pursued by the English. Three of the largest ships, including the admiral's, le Soleil Royal, sought refuge in Cherbourg, where they were blown up by the English admiral Delaval. Tourville, hoisting his flag on board another vessel, conducted 12 into the bay of La Hougue, where he had time, before the arrival of Russell the day after, to prepare means for a stout defence, running them aground on the shallows with their broadside to the enemy. The French army, united with a body of Irish and English refugees, was drawn up on the heights above; while the artillery was embarked on floating batteries, to assist in repelling any attack on the ships. James II., attended by Marshals Berwick and Bellefonde, who commanded his forces, was a spectator of the action which ensued. The only really brilliant part of the battle was the attack and capture of this armament by the boats of the English squadron under Sir George Rooke; these, and a few light frigates, only being able to approach near enough to take a part in the action on account of the shallows. In the teeth of a tremendous fire of musketry and artillery from shore and ships, the English sailors pulled up to the stranded vessels, boarded them one after the other, and pointed their guns against the French on the shore. All the 12 ships of war were burnt, together with a number of transports, 300 of which had been collected in this and the neighbouring ports to convey the army to England.

A magnificent view of the coast may be obtained from the churchyard of *la Pernelle*, 2 m. N. of St. Vaast.

About 7 m. N. of St. Vaast is

Barfleur (*Inn:* H. Phare de Gatteville, small but clean), an ancient and now nearly deserted town of 1304 Inhab. To the end of the 12th cent. it was the most frequented port by which the communication between Normandy and England was maintained, in spite of the dangerous rocks around. Upon them perished in 1120 the "Blanche Nef,"—the ship which conveyed William the only son of Henry I., with 140 young noblemen—through the fault of the intoxicated pilot and crew. The prince himself might have escaped had not an affectionate desire to save his natural sister, the Countess of Mortagne, caused him to turn back towards the foundering vessel. The boat which was bearing him to the shore was instantly filled by a crowd of despairing wretches, and all sank to the bottom.

On the extreme point of the Cap de Gatteville, the W. horn of the great bay into which the Seine discharges itself, about 1 m. N. of Barfleur, a magnificent *Lighthouse* has been erected. It is 271 ft. high above the sea, and is constructed entirely of granite. The light is seen at a distance of 27 m. at sea. There is a fine view from the top. Barfleur is 15 m. E. of Cherbourg: a good road leads thither. Near to it, about 2 m. E. of St. Pierre Eglise, lies the *Château de Tocqueville*, seat of the family of the eminent author of 'Democracy in America,' 'The French Revolution,' &c., M. Alexis de T., who is buried under the transept of the small Norman ch. 1 m. from the village. On the other side of the village, the Château St. Pierre, a building of the 18th cent., belonging to Count de Blangy.

About 7 m. from Valognes, l., is the small town of *Brix*, a memorable name, since it is the same as Bruis or Bruce in its primitive spelling. The noble family of that name was allied to the Dukes of Normandy, and from it sprang Robert Bruce the King of Scotland. The castle of the Seigneur de Brix, built in the 12th cent., is now reduced to a few ruined vaults and foundation walls. It was called *Château d'Adam*. Robert de Bruis was one of the Conqueror's followers to England.]

The rly. from Valognes is carried by 6 m. *Sottevast* Stat.

[An omnibus runs from Sottevast to Bricquebec (4 m on the.), way to the port of *Barneville* (15 m.), in the Base

de Carteret, which is only 13 m. from Jersey.

Bricquebec (*Inn*: H. du Vieux Château), 5 m. W. from Valognes, a village, including an ancient *Castle* (M. H.), whose lofty donjon keep, 100 ft. high, in shape a decagon, seated on a high mound, remains tolerably perfect (date 14th cent.), as well as the walls of the outer inclosure. Other portions are as late as the 16th, and some as early as the 11th cent. It belonged in turn to the families of Bertram, Paisnel (Paganel) and Estouteville. It was taken from the last by Henry V. after the battle of Agincourt, and bestowed on his favourite William de la Pole, Earl of Suffolk, who parted with it to ransom himself from the hands of the French.

In the adjoining forest, on the hill des *Grosses Roches*, are three Druidical monuments of the kind called "Galeries Couvertes." A little more than a mile N.E. of Bricquebec is the *Trappist Convent* of Notre Dame de Grace, founded 1823 on a spot of ground just cleared from the forest. Its inmates, 32 in number, of whom 12 are priests, are bound by strict vows to silence, communicating by established signs on indispensable matters, living on coarse dry bread, a few vegetables, a salad with a spoonful of oil, a little milk, and a bit of cheese. They are prohibited from wearing linen even when ill, and sleep with their clothes on, upon a straw mattress piquée, 2 inches thick. They are allowed one sort of meat when sick; but fish is forbidden. They rise daily at 2 A.M.; and on fête-days at 12 or 1, and spend their time in prayer, reading, and work.]

8 m. *Martinvast* Stat. Close to the stat. is a 12th-cent. Norm. *Church*, with slender half-pillars surrounding its E. end, and a cornice of grotesque heads under the eaves. Its lofty stone-vaulted roof is supported by horseshoe arches. The ruins of the 15th-cent. *Castle*, partly restored, and connected with a modern *Château* belonging to M. Arthur Shickler.

Cherbourg is so surrounded by hills that the rly. makes a great curve to the W., passing through the picturesque valley of Quincampoix, before reaching

4 m. **Cherbourg** Stat. Omnibuses from rly. (*Inns*: H. des Bains, with reading-room, &c., and garden, with terrace overlooking the sea, well managed and good; H. de l'Univers, comfortable; H. de France, good; H. de l'Amirauté; H. de l'Europe; H. de l'Aigle, on the Quay, moderate, good and clean, landlady speaks English). This principal naval port and dockyard of France is situated at the N. extremity of the peninsula of the Cotentin in the dépt. de la Manche, in the centre of a bay, the extremities of which are formed by Cap Levy on the E. and Point Querqueville on the W. It is 70 m. distant from Portsmouth. Its docks have been excavated in the rock, and its harbour won from the winds; for no pains nor cost have been spared by France to secure on this point, so advantageously projecting into the Channel, a naval arsenal and port. The town lies in the hollow of the valley of the Divette, which opens out to the sea under the lofty cliff of the hill of Le Roule, crowned by a fort. The port and roadstead are lighted by 6 lighthouses and defended by 7 forts. Numerous detached forts and redoubts have been erected on the hills behind the town, at distances varying from ½ m. to 1½ m. from the sea. Apart from its consideration as a naval station, Cherbourg is insignificant; with dirty streets, reminding one of Portsmouth Point, and its commercial relations are very limited. The extensive naval works employ about 10,000 out of its 41,812 Inhab., and upon them depends its prosperity. Among its articles of export are eggs to the value of more than 2 million francs yearly sent to England, besides cattle, poultry, butter, &c. There is a commercial harbour formed at the mouth of the Divette, consisting of a floating-dock (Bassin du Commerce) of about 6 acres, and an outer tidal harbour (Port du Commerce) protected by long stone piers, with a small lighthouse on the E. jetty. During the summer season the place is enlivened by a few English yachts, which come

over to lay in wines and spirits. Yachts pay no port-dues, and are admitted into the floating-dock without charge, except a few francs for quarantine fees. The commercial port, which is in the centre of the town, is quite distinct from

The *Dockyard*, or *Port Militaire*, situated on the N.W. of the town. Admission is given on presenting a note from the British consul, at the Préfecture Maritime, Rue des Bastions, where a permission is granted to be presented at the dockyard gates. The Port Militaire occupies a nearly triangular space of ground, one side resting on the sea, and is surrounded by fortifications 3 m. in extent. It was designed, as well as the Digue, by Vauban, whose plan, drawn by himself and signed, is preserved in the H. de Ville, but it was only partly begun by Louis XVI. Napoleon did something towards the completion, Louis Philippe much more, and Napoleon III. nearly completed the design of the great military engineer. The dockyard, including the avant-port and floating basins, is of greater extent than any English dockyard; its buildings are very large and handsome. Having no harbours like those of Portsmouth or the Medway in which to lay up their ships in ordinary, the French have been compelled at an enormous expense to excavate out of the rock, principally by blasting, a second floating dock of 20 acres, and a tidal basin of 18, besides one or two smaller basins, comprising altogether an area of 48 acres of deep water, accessible by the largest ships of war, fully armed, at all times of the tide. The large 20-acre *Floating-dock* (Bassin Napoléon III.) was opened by the emperor in 1858, on the visit of the Queen of England. It is cut 54 ft. deep in the live rock; its quays are interrupted by 7 dry docks (formes de radoub) and 7 building-sheds (cales); 2 sets of lock-gates open into it; and on one side is the anchor-yard. The slips (*cales de construction*) and dry docks are very handsomely and expensively built. Some of the building-slips are roofed over substantially, the roofs resting on arches supported on stone piers, and the sides closed by wooden blinds. The arsenal also contains an *atelier des forges*, or smithy, and *atelier des machines*, or workshops, with machinery for planing, sawing, turning, &c., and for working in iron; a zinc-roofed iron-foundry; and very large storehouses. On the W. of the docks are the Parc and Caserne d'Artillerie, and the extensive pumping machinery for emptying the docks. The dockyard generally presents an appearance of magnificence, but of inactivity.

The Timber Shed (Hangar au *Bois*) is 958 ft. long, and supported on 130 stone pillars. The *Salle d'Espadage*, or rope-walk, is a covered building of great length. The yard is supplied with water from the Divette by a long conduit. On the road from the town to the Grand Port is the Caserne de la Marine, where the sailors are lodged when there is no ship ready to receive them.

The *Salle d'Armes* and *Salle des Modèles* deserve a visit. In the latter are preserved the slab-stones which covered the grave of Napoleon, brought here when his remains were landed from St. Helena.

**La Digue.* The roads of Cherbourg, though protected on three sides by the land, are open and exposed to the N. To remedy this, the project of throwing a Breakwater across the bay's mouth has been a favourite project of every French government since that of Louis XIV. The Bourbons, the Republic, the Empire, the Restoration, and Louis Philippe, all desired to advance a scheme which would contribute to secure for France a safe and strong harbour on this part of her coast, opposite to Portsmouth, which would be an eye to watch and an arm to strike the English on the opposite side of the Channel. Hitherto the French had possessed no port for ships of war between Dunkirk and Brest. Now that the works have been carried on nearly 50 years, and more than 2½ millions sterling, together with about 4,000,000 cubic mètres of stone, sunk in the operation, the Digue is complete, and its permanent duration seems pro-

bable, since for several years past no perceptible alteration has been produced by the action of the waves in the structure or profile of the base. For a long time the undertaking could be regarded only as a series of experiments and failures. The plan first adopted under Louis XVI. (1784) was that of forming truncated cones of timber, or huge broad-bottomed tubs, floating them on empty casks to the proper place, sinking them by filling them with stones, and heaping up others about them. But a brief exposure to a few storms overset some of the caissons, shattered the framework of others, and spread the stone and wood over the anchorage, so as to injure it. After a considerable interruption from the Revolution, another scheme was resorted to of sinking stones at random (*à pierre perdue*), so as to be swept by the waves into a long and gradual slope to seaward: this was continued down to the time of Napoleon, who, as was his custom, looked at the project in a military point of view, and at once directed the formation of a fort in the centre of the Digue. All exertions were thenceforth concentrated on this object; a mole was formed, a battery raised on it mounting 20 guns, a garrison of 90 men was established on it, and lodged in barracks erected for the purpose. In 1808, however, a storm of extraordinary violence burst upon the roads; the waves, carried to an unusual height, soon submerged all the buildings raised upon the Digue, and, by the impetuosity of their shocks, swept them all off, save the cabin of the commandant of the prison, and, forming a wide breach in the masonry, poured over and through it with tremendous violence. There were at the time upon the dyke 263 soldiers and workmen, of whom 194 were drowned, 31 were saved by finding shelter in hollows among the stones, and 38 got off in a boat which they managed to reach during a short lull, with great difficulty, since the vessels in the roads within the Digue were all driven from their moorings. By this disaster the operations of 16 years in sinking large blocks were nearly annihilated, and the whole mass of stone was reduced to the condition of a rubble bed, rendering it doubtful whether the plan of even protecting the roads at all was practicable. Nevertheless, Napoleon did not abandon it, nor did his successors lose sight of it. A survey made by order of the government in 1828 showed, however, that the foundations had shifted in the course of 40 years from the position in which they had been first placed to a considerable distance. Under the vigorous superintendence of Louis Philippe a new mode of proceeding was adopted in 1832. As the result of the schemes previously pursued had shown that the mere weight and volume of the stones thrown into the sea was insufficient to secure their fixity, a layer of beton, a species of concrete, composed of 1 part of small stones and pounded brick and 2 of lime, is now deposited on the loose stone heap, sloping on either side, and upon it a vertical wall of well-jointed and solid masonry, faced with granite, is raised to the height of 20 ft. above ordinary high water, forming a regular terre-pleine 20 or 30 ft. wide, and parapet 12 ft. thick. Even this, however, was destined to be the sport of the waves during a storm which occurred in 1836, the most terrible since that of 1808: the coat of concrete was broken and turned over in places; blocks of stone, weighing 3 tons, were raised 22 ft. high in the air, and carried over the wall to the inside of the Digue. At the end of 3 days 300 of them had found their way across, hurled with appalling violence and noise against the granite masonry, and acting upon it like battering rams, so that serious breaches and wide gaps were formed in the body of the breakwater. This is more or less the effect of every serious tempest.

The *Digue de Cherbourg* extends between the Ile Pelée and the Pointe de Querqueville, in length 4111 yards, or more than 2 m., leaving openings for the entrance and exit of vessels on the E. of 1257 yards, and at the W. of about 1¼ m. The width at the base is 310 ft. The depth of the sea about the Digue varies from 36 to 45 ft. at low water. There are lighthouses at

each end, as well as forts commanding the two entrances E. and W., and in the middle is the *Fort Central*, all casemated, and guns may be mounted all along the Digue. The stone employed is partly from the quarries at the base of the Montagne du Roule, conveyed to the harbour along a tramway; the slate came from the excavations made in forming the docks, and the granite from Fermanville and Flamanville, and from the Iles Chausey near Guernsey. There is generally no difficulty in visiting the breakwater; the best way will be to hire a boat in the harbour and row off to it, the distance being about 2 m.

The following comparative measurements will show how much more serious an undertaking the Cherbourg Digue has been than the Plymouth Breakwater:—

	Length.	Breadth.	Height.	
Digue,	4111	103-310	22	yards.
Breakwater,	1760	120 at base, 16 at top,	14	yards.

The lapse of years however will alone decide whether the Digue can stand heavy northerly gales. Even now that the breakwater has been built, a very heavy and troublesome sea drives through the roadstead when the wind blows from N.E.

The following description is nearly in the words of the late Admiral Sir Chas. Napier, who visited Cherbourg during the Naval Review, Oct. 1850:—"We have seen, almost within sight of our own shores, a splendid Breakwater nearly 3 m. long rise from the bottom of the sea, 60 ft. deep, under which can lie at moorings 50 sail of the line with perfect safety, almost frowning on England. That breakwater is defended by 3 tremendous fortifications, independent of movable guns without number, to protect either entrance that may be attacked. On the Isle Pelée opposite the breakwater, on the E. entrance, is Fort Imperial, mounting 90 guns casemated. Opposite this, on the main land, is Fort des Flamands, mounting many heavy guns; in its rear is the redoubt of Tourlaville.

"At the W. entrance of the harbour are the Forts of Querqueville, St. Anne, Homet, and Chavagnac, built on a rock between the W. end of the breakwater and Querqueville. These forts mount upwards of 150 guns. There are also strong batteries to the left of the basin, bearing on the roads. Upon the land, excavated out of rock and faced with stone, is the *avant-port*, capable of containing 10 sail of the line alongside the quay, 30 ft. deep at low-water springtides. In this port are a dock and 4 slips; in a line with this, and communicating with it, is an inner basin in which 10 sail of the line can also lie alongside the quay. On two sides of this basin are magazines; and here also lies the sheer hulk. In the rear of Fort Homet there is another small basin, and two building-slips. This serves as a ditch to the fort, which is cut off from the mainland and island by a drawbridge; from the lower tier of guns another bridge conducts you over a ditch to a large barrack-yard, casemated; and two small stairs lead up to a second tier of guns.

"In the rear of the *avant-port* and the inner basin inland, there is another basin, which communicates with both. It can accommodate 20 sail of the line alongside the quay. Here are 4 docks and 5 slips. To the l. of the great *avant-port* there is another *avant-port*, which leads to the steam basin, where there are 3 slips. The storehouses are large, well arranged, and close to the basins. There is also a port of refuge, leading to another steam basin, where, as in the other basins, steamers can coal alongside the wharf.

"The splendid dockyard is surrounded by a high wall, and the wall is again surrounded by regular fortifications, with a wet ditch: and to protect the works, the heights in the rear, and, indeed, all round from Tourlaville, there is a double chain of strong redoubts.

"Two piers project a considerable distance beyond the quays. Both the town and commercial harbour are outside the fortification."

A small basin called the Port de l'Echouage has been built near Fort

des Flamands; and the whole of the sea forts have been repaired, and in some places enlarged, by the present Emperor. The total expense of the works at Cherbourg, including the Digue, exceeds 16,000,000*l*. The area enclosed by the Digue amounts to 1000 hectares, of which about 200 furnish serviceable anchorage ground for vessels of war at all times of the tide.

In 1758 the English, under General Bligh, effected a descent on the coast, to the number of 7000, in the face of 16,000 French troops, who offered no effective opposition. The English forces kept possession of Cherbourg for three days, in which time they destroyed all the naval and military works, docks, arsenals, &c., blowing them up with the powder which the French had left behind, burning the lock gates of the harbour and all the vessels of war and commerce. They levied a contribution of 44,000 livres on the town, but no injuries nor pillage of the inhabitants or their dwellings were permitted. To this the French themselves bear honourable testimony, acknowledging that the protection of the British officers prevented any outrage. All the cannon were carried off, but the bells of the ch. were conceded to the entreaties of the curé, and allowed to remain.

In the interior of the *Ch. of Ste. Trinité* (15th cent.), *obs.* the Flamboyant roof, the screen work, and the carved pulpit. In the centre of the *Quai*, at the end of the Place d'Armes, is an equestrian statue of Napoleon I.

The *Chapelle de Notre Dame du Vœu*, outside the town near the dockyard, rebuilt in the Romanesque style, formerly formed part of the abbey of the same name, founded by the Empress Maude (or Matilda), daughter of our Henry I., in consequence of a vow made by her when caught in a fierce tempest (1145), which threatened to overwhelm the vessel in which she was attempting to gain the port of Cherbourg, on her flight from the usurper Stephen. While still at her prayers, and in the agony of anticipated death among the waves, "Chante, Reine," exclaimed a sailor, "behold the land; your prayers are heard:" and from this circumstance, it is said, the spot where the queen landed, and near to which she built the chapel, now inclosed within the dockyard, was called *Chantereine*,—a name which it still retains. Matilda is not the only refugee sovereign whom Cherbourg has seen within its walls at various periods: besides Charles X., who here took a last farewell of his country, after abdicating the throne at Rambouillet, 1830, James II. repaired hither after the battle of La Hougue.

The *Hôtel de Ville* contains the Library and a *Collection of* 164 *Pictures*, formed and bequeathed to the town by a native, Thomas Henry, himself an artist. *Obs.* (33) David, by *Herrera el Viejo*; (34) Christ bearing the Cross, by *Alonso Cano* (called Murillo). And amongst the 62 additions, chiefly presents from the late Emperor Napoleon III., *obs.* Portrait of Leonardo da Vinci, by himself. In the Library is a very curious chimney-piece, of the 15th cent., rescued from the convent of Queen Matilda.

Consuls reside here from Great Britain and the maritime states of Europe and the United States of America.

There is a *Bathing Establishment* on the sands, to the E. of the avant-port and jetée. It has a casino for balls and concerts; baths have been erected with a handsome terrace overlooking the sea. In front are numerous bathing machines. The bathing is safe and good.

The *Poste aux Lettres* is in the Rue du Chantier.

The view from *Fort du Roule* on the height S. of the town, a walk of ¼ hour by a beautiful road, is very fine, and all the country at the back of Cherbourg is exceedingly pretty, consisting of green and well-watered valleys with limestone cliffs rising over them—exactly what would in England be chosen for country residences.

Steamers to Southampton, Tues. and Frid., to Havre weekly, and occasionally to the island of Alderney.

Excursions: a—To the *Château of Tourlaville* (2 m. S.E.), the residence of the Ravalets, notorious for their

crimes. It now belongs to the Vicomte de Tocqueville, and is in part occupied by a farmer. The position is beautiful, and the architecture of great interest. It is a fine specimen of a feudal castle of the time of Henri IV. The Tour des Quatre Vents (view from the top) has the character of Heidelberg Castle.

b—From Tourlaville by St. Pierre l'Eglise, Tocqueville, Barfleur, to La Hougue—all described in Rte. 26.

c—*Querqueville*, 5 m. W. of Cherbourg, is a hamlet on a slight eminence overhanging the sea, whose name is variously derived from the oaks, *quercus*, which once surrounded it, or, with more probability, from its small triapsal *Church* (kirk) of *St. Germain* standing by the side of the parish ch. This is one of the oldest monuments of Christianity in Normandy, and, though the building has gone through several changes, part, at least, are primitive Romanesque of very early date. It is in the form of a cross; its chancel and transepts, lighted by loophole windows, all end in apses, and all this part is of herring-bone masonry; the short nave and square tower were added at a subsequent period. The ornaments of the towers, stripes of stone projecting from the wall, surmounted by the round arch, resemble those of Barton on the Humber, Barnack, and others in England. A short distance from Querqueville, at *Nacqueville*, is a handsome château of the 16th cent., in a fine park belonging to the Vicomte de Tocqueville.

The fort of Querqueville is one of the defences of the roads of Cherbourg, and its lighthouse points out the entrance to them.

13 m. farther to the W., beyond Beaumont, passing near the cliffs of Jobourg, the Cape la Hague (often confounded on the maps with La Hougue) stretches out towards Alderney (called by the French Aurigny), from which island it is only 9 m. distant. Both the cape and the island, as well as the Cape Flamanville, are of granite, the fundamental rock of the Côtentin. Opposite Cap de la Hougue, on a rock called le Gros du Raz, about a mile out at sea, stands a lighthouse.

At *Flamanville*, about 3 m. from *les Pieux*, is a splendid *château* of the 17th cent., belonging to the Marquise de Sesmaisons.

ROUTE 27.

CHERBOURG TO ST. MALO, BY COUTANCES, GRANVILLE, AND AVRANCHES.—MONT ST. MICHEL.

		Kil.	Miles.
Cherbourg to Lison } Lison to St. Lô . . }	(Rly.)	76	47
		18	11
St. Lô to Coutances . . .		29	18
Coutances to Granville . .		29	18
Granville to Avranches . .		26	16
Avranches to Dol		41	26
Dol to St. Malo (Rly.) . .		28	17

Rly. to St. Lô, 58 m.; by road to Dol, 78 m.; to St. Malo, 17 m. Total: 153 m.

Cherbourg and the Rly. to (47 m.) *Lison* Junct. Stat. are described in Rte. 26. Here a branch line turns off to

11 m. **St. Lô** Stat. (*Inns:* H. Soleil Levant, good; H. Cheval Blanc; H. de l'Univers); named from St. Lô, or Laudus, who lived in the 6th cent., and came from this part of Normandy. It is picturesquely situated, and its *Ch. of Notre Dame* (once *Cathedral*), standing prominently on the brow of the hill, has an imposing appearance, with its well-proportioned double towers and spires, but is not of much interest for its architecture. The W. end is florid, of the 15th cent.; it has three fine porches, but the upper part is defective and irregular; and, as well as the choir, exhibits marks of slovenliness in its builder. The nave is better, and in the Pointed style. The painted glass was given by Louis XI. as a reward to the town for beating off the Bretons 1467. Outside the church, in the N.E. angle, is a fine stone pulpit, with a pyramidal canopy over it, 15th cent. Charlemagne founded here, in the 9th cent., the once celebrated Abbey of *St. Croix*; but this building was swept away at the invasion of the Northmen. The present *Eglise de St. Croix* was entirely rebuilt in 1860.

St. Lô is chief town of the Dépt. de la Manche, and numbers 9693 Inhab.; it manufactures fine cloths, but possesses

no great attraction to the stranger. There is a small terraced platform to the W. of the cathedral, called *Petite Place*, which commands a view of the vale of the Vire. The modern *H. de Ville* is built with considerable taste in the style of the Renaissance.

Rly. in progress from St. Lô through Coutances and Avranches to Dol. In the mean time, diligence twice daily to Coutances. The road passes near *Hauteville*, the castle whence Tancred and his six stout sons proceeded to the conquest of Sicily and Apulia.

18 m. **Coutances** (*Inns:* H. de France, best, though by no means first-rate, civil people; H. Cheval Blanc, old established house); at present a somewhat lifeless town of 8159 Inhab., is built upon a hill, the summit of which is occupied by the *Cathedral*, proudly predominating over other buildings, with its 3 towers. There is hardly a flat yard of ground in the town except the open place before the Cathedral—perhaps the forum of *Constantia*, as Coutances was anciently called. The high road, carried in a broad winding terrace along the flank of the hill, round the outskirts of the town, forms an agreeable walk. There is also a handsome *Public Garden*, the bequest of a townsman, M. Quesnel-Morinière, to whom an obelisk has been erected in the grounds.

The **Cathedral of Notre Dame* (M.H.), one of the finest ecclesiastical edifices of Normandy, stands on the site of a magnificent building, erected by contributions partly furnished by Tancred de Hauteville and his sons, who were born in the diocese of Coutances; and consecrated in 1056 in the presence of William Duke of Normandy, 9 years before he conquered England; but no part of this remains, except perhaps the core of the great piers which carry the central tower. The present structure dates from the first part of the 13th cent. In the 14th were added the *Lady Chapel* and the nave chapels, so remarkable for the beautiful effect of the openings which connect them. This building is free from exuberant ornament, but captivating the eye by the elegance of its proportion and arrangement. "The whole is of a piece, complete in conception and execution. The lofty towers terminating in spires, both finished and alike, flank its W. front." "Its interior is very lofty, 77½ feet. Cluster piers divide the nave from the aisles: coupled pillars surround the choir which has in the chevet 6 chapels and a Lady chapel to the E. Most of the windows are of later date than the body of the building."—*Knight.* "The peculiarities of this cathedral are, the side porches close behind the towers; the open screens of mullioned tracery, corresponding with the windows, which divide the chapels of the nave; the height of the choir arches, from there being no triforium storey, but only a passage with a balustrade below the clerestory windows; and the central tower, which, though incomplete for want of a spire, is very fine externally, and opens to the inside with a lantern of great beauty; it is an expansion of the plain Norman lantern as at Caen. Some of the painted glass is in the oldest style: diapered patterns black on a grey ground."

From the top of the fine lantern tower a view is obtained of the sea, with the distant island of Jersey on the W., and of the rock of Granville on the S. There is some fine painted glass of the 14th, 15th, and 16th cents.

The *Ch. of St. Pierre* (M. H.) is of the 15th cent., with a good steeple at the W., and at the crossing a picturesque tower and spire of the Italianized Gothic of the 16th; it has some good carving and glass. *St. Nicholas* is also of the 15th, and a little better in style. Only the tower remains of a *Ch.* founded, in the S.W. suburb, in connection with the hospital, by Bishop Hugues de Morville, in 1209.

The steep and narrow valley which bounds the town on the W. and is traversed by the terraced road leading to Granville is crossed by the remains of an *ancient Aqueduct*, consisting of 5 perfect arches, and 15 piers supported by buttresses, called

Les Piliers, which is also the name given to the village or suburb in which it is situated, ¼ m. out of Coutances. It is erroneously called a *Roman* aqueduct, but its pointed arches, its buttresses with offsets, and coarse irregular masonry, prove clearly that it is not so, but a work of the middle ages, probably monkish. It is supposed to have been erected in the 14th cent. by one of the noble family De Paisnel (Paganel).

In the Place de la Sous-Préfecture is a bronze statue of Le Brun Duc de Plaisance, Minister of Napoleon I.

Diligence to Granville 3 times a day; to Avranches and Pontorson daily.

[Those who love old Gothic ruins will be repaid by an excursion hence to the *Abbey of Hambye*, about 15 m. to the S.E. It may be taken on the way to Granville, making a détour of 9 or 10 m. A good road leads through a pleasing but hilly country by Mesnil l'Aubert and St. Denis le Guest, leaving *Hambye l'Eglise* ¼ m. to the rt., to Bourg d'Hambye, a scattered village, with a small cabaret, furnishing only homely fare—coffee, milk, cheese, and cider—at high prices. The old *Castle* of Hambye, whose keep, 100 ft. high, stood on an eminence over the Bourg, has been swept away to mend the roads.

It is a pleasant walk of 1½ m. from the Bourg to the *Abbey*, but the road thither, through narrow lanes, is practicable only for light cars.

The little *Abbey of Hambye* nestles in a retired valley, sheltered under picturesque cliffs by the side of a trout-stream (the Sienne) the beau idéal of a monastic site. The roof and W. end are gone, the ivy begins to creep up the mouldering walls, and destruction is advancing apace, yet there is much beauty in the narrow arches which inclosed the choir, resting on columnar piers, in the style of the 15th cent. Behind them are side chapels much older, having round and pointed arches in combination, which marks the period of transition. The tower in the centre of the cross rests on square piers, which become octagonal below by chamfering. The convent buildings are now occupied by a farmer. The *Chapterhouse*, a double pointed vault elegantly groined, resting on angular pillars and entered by a fine doorway deep sunk in its early English mouldings, is now turned into a woodhouse: it should be seen. This abbey was founded by William de Pagnel 1145, but renovated, or probably rebuilt, in the 15th cent. by Joanne de Pagnel, the last of her family, who was buried in the church with her husband Louis d'Estouteville, the defender of Mont St. Michel against the English. Their tombs were destroyed at the Revolution.

About 5 m. from Hambye is *Perci*, cradle of the Earls of Northumberland. The high road to Granville may be regained at Bréhal.]

The direct road from Coutances to Granville has little interest.

Passing by 6 m. *Regneville* on the sea, near which there is an oyster-breeding establishment belonging to Mlle. Felix, the sister of the tragedian Rachel.

11 m. *Bréhal* (*Inn:* Poste). Trees diminish in size and number on approaching the sea, glimpses of which and the Chausey Islands are had at intervals. The entrance to Granville is by a steep descent, excavated partly through a deep hollow way; on the rt. a natural wall of rock separates the road from the seashore, and through a gap cut in it access is afforded to the baths and sea-beach. In front rises a high hill, its slope cut away evenly and levelled, until it is as steep and smooth as the roof of a house, in order to form a glacis for the fort on its top. A bend in the road presently discloses to view the lower town and harbour.

7 m. **Granville** Stat. (*Inns:* None very first-rate: H. du Nord, good table-d'hôte, and civil people; H. des Trois Couronnes, landlady speaks English; H. de Paris). A small but tolerably prosperous seaport of 15,622 Inhab., chiefly resorted to by fishing vessels, but carrying on some commerce along the coast and with Jersey (33 m. distant) and Guernsey.

Its situation is singular, built in

steps or terraces under a rocky promontory projecting into the sea, surmounted by the fort, whose presence restricts many of the buildings from rising above one storey in height. Under the shelter of this eminence lies the little port, screened by it from the N. winds. A new town is gradually spreading itself along the low margin of this harbour, and up the banks of the small stream. The sombre hue of the buildings, whose walls are dark granite and their roofs black slate, renders Granville on a near examination unattractive to the sight; moreover it contains few objects of interest.

The stranger desirous of a fine sea-view may repair to the churchyard at the Fort, or to the Lighthouse, whence Jersey is visible, or to the noble *Pier*, begun 1828, a very grand work, and inclosing an older one in its much wider circuit. It is very strongly built, so that guns can be mounted on it. A floating-dock has been made. The tide rises and falls here at times from 40 to 44 feet.

The *Church* on the top of the promontory is a low gloomy building, of Italianized Gothic. It is of grey granite, even the capitals of its columns being worked in that hard material; it has been restored, and contains a good deal of modern painted glass.

In order to ascend the hill above the old town, proceed by the road to Coutances, and then scale the steep slope no farther than the walls of the fort, a point which commands a good sea-view. Close under the cliffs lie the *baths* (Salon des Bains) and *reading-room*, which can be approached only through the breach in the rock before alluded to, leading also down to the sands, a fine smooth and broad expanse, quite shut out from the town. There are no machines; instead of them bathers are inclosed in cases of canvas carried in the fashion of sedan-chairs.

Granville was bombarded by the English in 1695 and in 1803; and though not a strong place, it resisted effectually the attack of the peasant army of *Vendeans*, 30,000 strong, on their ill-fated march, N. of the Loire, in 1793, led on by Larochejacquelin, in the hope of opening a communication by the sea with England, and to secure a place where they could deposit in safety their women and children, the sick and the priests. The Vendéans, being destitute of artillery to breach the ramparts, were unable to resort to a regular siege, and the attempt to storm the place was foiled. More than once these brave soldiers gained the ramparts, sometimes supplying the want of scaling ladders by sticking their bayonets into the chinks of the masonry, but as often they were swept off by grape and musketry from the walls and gunboats in the harbour, until at length they were forced to retire with a loss of 1800 killed. Their army never advanced farther N.; this was the culminating point of their success, and from henceforth they were compelled to retreat. During this attack the suburbs of the town were set on fire by the republican commander of the fortress and burnt down.

Granville is a very trading town, receiving yearly between 300 and 400 square-rigged vessels, chiefly employed in the cod-fishery. There is a good deal of shipbuilding here.

The caps worn by the women about Granville consist of a piece of white linen, bent like a roof, laid on the top of the head, the front, or gable, turned up in a sort of scroll, exactly corresponding with that seen on monumental effigies in English churches, of ladies of the 15th and 16th cents.

About 2 m. from Granville is the small bathing station of *St. Pair* (Hôtel de France), on a creek or bay; sands excellent. It is much frequented in the summer. In the middle of its ch. is a large tomb of the 14th cent., with recumbent statues of St. Pair and St. Scabileon.

Steamers to Jersey (3 hrs.) and to St. Malo. In summer steamers make excursions to the Chausey Islands, a group of more than 50 islets and rocks, distant 7 m. on the route to Jersey.

Rly. to Paris through Vire, Argentan, Laigle, and Dreux (Rte. 35).

Diligences twice a day to St. Lô Stat. through Coutances.

It is a very pretty drive from Granville to Avranches (16 m.); the view from the height, after crossing the wooded dell of Sartilly, of the peaked rock of Mont St. Michel, is very striking. The road passes through the village of (7 m.) *St. Pierre Langers*, where the traveller should turn off to visit, at 2 m. distance, the ruined abbey of *Luzerne*. The granite ch., in the Transition style, was completed 1178, except the nave, which is later. The fine central tower, with lancet windows, the round-headed W. portal, and the square E. end with remarkably large E. window, are still in good condition. The roof of the nave is gone, and the ch., together with the conventual buildings, turned into a cotton-mill at the Revolution, are fast falling to decay. The situation in a wooded valley is beautiful. The main road may be regained at (4 m.) Sartilly, from which it is 7 m. to

Avranches. (*Inns:* H. de Londres, fallen off; H. d'Angleterre, good and clean; H. de France: H. de Bretagne). Avranches (Ab-rancæ), a town of 8642 Inhab., is chiefly remarkable for its beautiful situation on the sides and summit of a high hill, rendered accessible for the high road by broad terraces carried up its steep slope in zigzags. The view which is obtained in ascending, and especially from the mound on the l. of the road before entering the town, in front of the Sous-Préfecture, is one of the most beautiful in the N. of France. The landscape abounds in wood, with partial clearances of well-cultivated land, through the midst of which winds the river in glittering pools until expanding into a broad estuary it meets the sea, which borders the horizon. But the prominent feature of the view is the peaked rock of Mont St. Michel, and the twin islet of Tombelaine rising grandly from the waters.

Under this mound is a *Public Walk* planted with trees, formerly the garden of the Archevêché, in the midst of which is a statue of General Valhubert, a native of Avranches, who fell at Austerlitz.

The new Gothic *Cathedral*, of granite, on a wide space adjoining the Public Garden, is steadily advancing towards completion. The old cathedral, one of the noblest in Normandy, and the chief ornament of the town, was pulled down to prevent its falling 1799: its site remains an open platform, commanding an extensive view, named *Place Huet*, from the celebrated Bishop of Avranches. All traces of the church are swept away, save a small heap of stones, including *la Pierre de Henri II.*, said to be that on which the king knelt an humble penitent, before the Papal Legates, to make atonement for the murder of Becket, "which had affected him more than the death of his own father or mother." After swearing on the Gospels that he had neither ordered nor desired it, he here received the Papal absolution, 1172. The stone stands at what formed part of the door of the N. transept, and is surrounded by a chain.

There are some portions remaining of the old *ramparts* of the town with herringbone and other masonry.

Another point of view, preferable perhaps, in some respects, to that above described, is from the *Jardin des Plantes*, in which has been set up the Gothic porch of a chapel now swallowed up by the sands.

The *Palace of the Bishops*, in former times, is now devoted to a *Museum of Antiquities*, containing a model of the destroyed cathedral, and the *Picture Gallery*. The *Public Library* at the *Mairie* contains 10,000 vols. and some old MSS., among which was discovered a copy of Abelard's treatise called 'Sic et Non,' published 1836 by M. Cousin.

The beauty of the situation, the salubrity of the air, and the cheapness of living, have rendered Avranches a favourite residence of the English, who form a considerable colony here. The *English Ch. Service* is performed in a room once a barrack, in the Boulevard de l'Ouest, where it joins the Rue Sanguière.

[The interesting *Excursion* to *Mont St. Michel* may be made from Avranches in 8 or 9 hrs. A one-horse chaise costs

12 to 15 frs. Pedestrians should go by the sands, inquiring beforehand whether the state of the tide will suit.]

In going to Pontorson and Dol an excellent road quits Avranches by another series of zigzags overlooking the bay of Cancale with Mont St. Michel in the midst, rising above a beautiful foreground of trees, and at Pont au Band, at the bottom of the hill, crosses the little river Selune.

At Louis, 3 m. short of Pontorson, a cross-road turns off on the rt. to the Mont St. Michel, crossing the sands, which are not entirely covered by the sea except at spring-tides. There is a diligence from Coutances to Pontorson, passing by Avranches.

16 m. *Pontorson Stat.* On the branch Rly. from Vitré (Rte. 34) by Fougères (Rte. 31). (*Inns:* Poste, homely, but dear; H. de l'Ouest, fair.) Horse and car for 5 or 6 fr. to Mont St. Michel. Omnibuses to and fro. The excursion there and back will take up the best part of a day.

The interesting granite *Church*, partly Norman, with a Transition W. end and Pointed choir, contains, in the N. aisle, a singular series of carvings in stone, representing the Passion of our Lord, but much mutilated; also a very old stone altar-table, with mutilated sculpture, in the N. aisle.

[The Rly. from Pontorson goes 2 m. farther to *Moidrey*, whence a very bad road leads to **Mont St. Michel**, 4 m. It passes near Beauvoir and Ardevon, where are the remains of conventual farm-buildings, anciently belonging to the monks. The road next crosses "la Grève," *i.e.* the sands, extending for many square leagues round the mount, and left bare for 4 or 5 hours by the sea, which at spring tides interrupts the passage to it between 1 and 2 hours before and after high water, and then the sea sometimes breaks into the houses. To prevent disappointment, inquiry ought to be made at Pontorson if the state of the tide will permit carriages or pedestrians to cross the sands.

The sands being constantly shifting, the tourist must not leave the beaten track without a guide.

The castle, no longer used as a prison, but leased to the Bishop of Coutances, and declared a "national monument," has undergone a judicious though partial restoration, under the direction of M. Viollet-le-Duc, by the religious community who now occupy it; but much still remains to be done before the disfigurements caused by partitions, floors, and plaster, can be removed. It is shown between 6 A.M. and 6 P.M.; admission for each person, 1 fr. Having once paid this fee, and been accompanied over the monastery by a guide, the visitor may return as often as he likes without further payment, and with leave to roam about by himself.

The distance across the Grève to the mount is about a mile; the driest track is firm and safe for horses or carriages. There is something mysterious and almost awful in the aspect of this isolated cone of granite rising out of the wide expanse of sand. One might imagine it the peak of some colossal mountain just piercing through the crust of the earth, but deprived, at the moment of its appearance, of the geological force necessary to rear it aloft. Slight as is its elevation, its isolated position in the midst of the sea, and its pointed top, render it the prominent object in every view from the surrounding coast; and from a distance make it appear much nearer at hand than it really is. On approaching, it is found to be girt round at its base by a circlet of mediæval walls and towers; above these rise the quaint irregular houses of the little town, plastered as it were against the rock, and piled one over another. Above them projects the bare surface of the rock, serving as a pedestal from which the lofty walls, high turrets, and prolonged buttresses of the conventual buildings are reared, surmounted in their turn by the pinnacles and tower of the church which crowns the whole, forming the apex of the pyramid.

Not inferior in interest to its outward aspect are the historical associations connected with this shrine of the Archangel Michael—the saint of high places. Holy hermits suc-

ceeded to Pagan priests in the possession of this natural temple, which Norman dukes and kings further honoured by building a church, and converted into a fortress almost impregnable in ancient times. Founded as a Benedictine monastery by St. Aubert, Bishop of Avranches, in the early part of the 8th cent., it flourished under the protection of Rollo and his successors; it contributed a number of vessels to the Conqueror's fleet for the invasion of England, and in the 12th cent., under its abbot Robert de Torigny, became a celebrated seat of learning. Henry I. of England here effectually resisted his two elder brothers. Here Henry II., in 1166, kept his court and received the homage of the turbulent Bretons, whom he had subdued with a strong arm. This was the only fortress which held out for the French king when all Normandy was overrun by the armies of the hero of Azincour; successfully withstanding 2 sieges, in 1417 and 1423, under the brave Louis d'Estouteville. Here Louis XI. in 1469 founded the Order of Knighthood of St. Michel. The shrine of St. Michel was for ages visited yearly by thousands of devotees from far and near, and the records of the convent preserve the names of more than a dozen royal pilgrims who have repaired hither to prostrate themselves as penitents before it, and to load it with their bounty. Disorder having crept into the then existing confraternity, the monks were replaced by others of the Congregation of St. Maur in the 17th cent. The Revolution dispersed the latter, interrupted the pilgrimages, and changed the destination of the building to a prison, in which 300 aged priests were immured until death released them. Its prisons and oubliettes, however, are of far greater antiquity. Who has not heard of the iron cage of St. Michel, which, though originally of metal bars, was afterwards changed to one of thick beams of wood, destroyed in 1777, by order of the Duc de Chartres (Louis Philippe). Its last occupant was Dubourg, an unfortunate Dutch journalist, who was most unjustifiably seized, beyond the territory of France, for having attacked Louis XIV., who treated the Dutchman as he did the prisoner of the iron mask. St. Michael's Mount in Cornwall, which bears so remarkable a resemblance to this, though on a smaller scale, was one of the foreign dependencies of this monastery.

The entrance to Mont St. Michel is by 3 gates, one within the other, the second flanked by 2 of the long cannon with which the English forces of Henry VI. ineffectually bombarded the mount in 1427, firing from them stone balls 1 ft. in diameter. Near this is the Cour du Lion, so called from the lion built into the wall on l., with a paw resting on the Abbatial escutcheon: the third gate is provided with a portcullis. The town (so to call it—150 Inhab.) consists of one narrow, dirty and steep lane. (*Inns:* H. Mont St. Michel (Tête d'Or), good and clean, though homely; H. Lion d'Or: neither of these *Inns* may appear very tempting, but it is quite possible to pass the night in them. If they should be full, some very good rooms can be procured up the street opposite the parish ch., with a splendid view towards Avranches. It might be well if some of the unused chambers in the abbey were arranged for travellers.) Half-way up to the abbey is the little parish *Church* of the 15th cent., with its apse built over the footway of the road. The best way of ascending is by the ramparts, turning to the rt. after passing the gate, up a succession of grass-grown flights of stairs "hanging to the side of the rock," provided with machicoulis at the side to annoy an enemy below. The uppermost gateway, leading into the castle convent, stands midway across a flight of steps, and is flanked by two round towers; it "is very scenic and baronial," built probably in 1257. Passing through this a lofty flight of steps is ascended, leading to a second gateway and the porter's lodge. Upon ringing the bell the visitor is admitted into a vaulted apartment, from which he is conducted over the place by one of the lay brothers of the religious order who occupy the monastery and serve the abbey ch. The convent-building, called "the Marvel" (*la Mer-*

veille), so named from its immense walls, 246 ft. long by 108 high, built in the best style of the 13th cent., consists partly of three storeys, and partly of two, with a cloister above them. On the same level are two Salles, one being the monks' refectory, having under it a Salle for the distribution of alms to the poor, and over it the dormitory of the monks; the other Salle was the refectory of the garrison, having over it the *Salle des Chevaliers*, and over that the cloisters. The **Cloisters*, the most beautiful part of the building, and a gem of Gothic architecture, were built between 1220 and 1228, and are in the lightest style, as being the uppermost storey of this immense structure. Towards the court they are supported by a double row of pointed arches resting on slim granite pillars, leaving an exquisitely groined narrow vault behind the rows. The very graceful capitals are of the plain bell form with a circular abacus, so common in English work, but rare in France. The pillar of one arch alternates with the point of the next, so as to allow a most graceful carved volute or sprig, issuing from the capital of every alternate pillar, to be seen. The spandrels of the arches are filled up with a creation of foliage, sprigs, flowers, garlands, such as is scarcely to be equalled anywhere for fanciful variety, and sharpness and excellence of execution; the whole is surmounted by a cornice of flowers, all in good preservation. The arches and carvings are of soft limestone; all the rest of the buildings are of granite.

The *Salle des Chevaliers*, below the cloisters, is a noble hall or nave, of 4 finely-vaulted aisles, supported on 3 rows of pillars, and measures 98 ft. by 68. The chapters of the knights of the order of St. Michel, founded 1496 by Louis XI., who twice repaired hither as a pilgrim, were held in it.

The *Church* of the convent consists of 2 parts, of different ages and styles. The Norman nave is in the massive style of the 12th cent. (about 1140), with slightly ornamented capitals and a modern stone vault, which replaces a wooden roof burnt by the prisoners. The Pointed Gothic choir is particularly fine, and of the 15th cent. (1452-1521), and is surrounded by aisles and radiating chapels, and supported by noble flying buttresses adorned with a profusion of pinnacles. The rich mouldings of the arches are carried down the piers without any interruption of capitals. The clerestory is very lofty, and pierced by large windows. The triforium is glazed. In the chapels surrounding the beautifully-vaulted apse are some interesting examples of late carving, particularly an altar with a reredos filled with small panels carved in alabaster, probably of the 15th cent., representing various scenes from the Passion, and over the high altar is a large silver statue of St. Michael. The piers supporting the central towers having given way, owing to the injury they received from a fire, the last of the 8 or 10 conflagrations which are recorded, several of them caused by lightning, have been repaired and restored in good style. The grotesque woodcarvings formerly on the walls of the choir have been removed into the chapels of the nave.

Beneath the choir a circle of stumpy pillars, set close together, with one in the centre, supports the superincumbent weight, and forms a curious crypt, same age as choir, with a new statue of the Virgin, an object of pilgrimage, and replacing a black one, destroyed in 1793. Under the N. transept is excavated the great water-cistern of the monks.

The view from the top of the church, elevated 400 ft. above the sands, from amidst its florid buttresses and pinnacles, is very fine. The Rochers de Cancale, on the coast of Brittany, the Chausey and Channel Islands, the town of Avranches, and the neighbouring rock of Tombelaine, are conspicuous objects.

Rly. from Moidrey by *Fougères* (Rte. 31) to *Vitré* (Rte. 34).

On quitting Pontorson for Dol, the river Couësnon is crossed by a bridge, forming the boundary between the departments of Ille et Vilaine and La Manche (Normandy and Brittany).

No. 17 of the scenes in the Bayeux tapestry represents Harold saving the lives of some Norman soldiers who were sinking into the shifting sands of this river on their march against Conan, Duke of Brittany. Close by is the large Departmental Lunatic Asylum. A fertile and very picturesque country succeeds, well wooded; in fact, a continuous orchard, the cornfields being planted with rows of fruit-trees. A last view is obtained of Mt. St. Michel from a lofty hill over which the road is carried.]

10 m. **Dol** (or *Dol-de-Bretagne*) Stat. (*Inns:* H. de France, nearest to the station, clean and comfortable; H. La Grande Maison, homely, but comfortable and good; H. de Notre Dame.)

A remarkable town, and bishop's see before the Revolution. Though many of its old buildings have been pulled down it still bears much of the aspect of olden times: the black hue of the granite of which its houses are built, contrasting sometimes with splashes of whitewash dashed over them, the heavy projecting gables, the arcades of various heights and patterns running under the houses, the quaintly carved granite pillars of 13th cent. on which they rest, all give a peculiar character to the place, and offer some good bits for the artist's pencil. It has 4230 Inhab., and a considerable corn-market held in the desecrated *Ch. of Notre Dame sous Dol*, distinguished by fine Flamboyant W. window, a Romanesque nave, with a Dec. tower at intersection of nave and choir.

The chief building is the **Cathedral* (M. H.) dedicated to St. Samson, destroyed in 1203, and rebuilt of sombre grey granite, uniformly in the Early Pointed style of the 13th cent., except the porches. The statues which filled the niches of the Porte Episcopale at the end of the S. transept, of probably about 1355, were destroyed during the Revolution. The dilapidated W. front has two towers, one of which is unfinished. The arches of the nave have deep mouldings, and rest on circular piers, composed of a group of 4 columns, the inner one towards the nave being detached half-way up to the roof, where it becomes engaged like the rest. The choir, more ornamented than the nave, but in the same style, has a square E. end, like some English churches, but behind the high altar is an open arch of two divisions separated by a slender pillar admitting a view into a small Lady chapel. The space above this arch is occupied by a large E. window filled with old and good painted glass. There is a very ancient granite font. The edifice is worthy of attention for its similarity to the Gothic of England; indeed many of the churches of Brittany are said to be the work of English architects.

There is an antique building called *le Palais* or *Maison des Plaids*, apparently Romanesque.

A part of the old **walls* of Dol, on the side of the town next the cathedral, remains tolerably perfect, wanting the gates; many of their flanking towers and bastions are surmounted with deep machicoulis, and the whole is surrounded by a fosse. A high *Terrace* walk has been formed on the outside of this, and planted with trees. From this walk a view is obtained of the solitary eminence of Mont Dol. These antiquated fortifications of the 15th and 16th cents. were defended by the Vendéans, after their retreat from Granville, against the Republican army, which was beaten off after a bloody combat of 15 hours, and compelled to retreat.

The tract of land between Dol and the sea, a distance of 3 m., is chiefly marsh gained from the waters by embankments; very fertile, but teeming with malaria, which, however, has diminished of late from improved drainage.

Diligences to Pontorson, Avranches, Granville, and Coutances.

Railway N. to St. Malo (see below), S. to Rennes (Rte. 28).

About 1½ m. outside of Dol, and ¼ m. to the l. of the Rennes road (turning off at a cross and looking out to the rt.), is one of those Druidical stones, so common in Brittany, called Menhirs. It is known as *la Pierre du Champ Dolant*, a name which probably marks it as a

funereal monument, perhaps on some field of battle. It is a rude, skittle-shaped obelisk of granite, a single block, 30 ft. high above ground, and 8 or 10, it is said, below, rising in the midst of a cornfield, and surmounted by a wooden cross.

Railway to St. Malo 15 m., passing the *Mont Dol*, a granite rock rising out of the flat land, and most probably once an island in the bay of Mont St. Michel, for the sea no doubt extended thus far. Where the road reaches the present margin of the bay the shore is lined by a long, scattered village, composed of nearly as many windmills as cottages. Not a boat can approach them, owing to the shallowness of the water, although the tide comes up to their doors twice a day.

6 m. *La Fresnais* Stat.

3 m. *La Gousnière Cancale* Stat., the nearest point to the town and port of Cancale (6400 Inhab.), backed by high cliffs. The houses along the beach are called *La Houle*, where there is a small pier and lighthouse. N. of the bay is the fortified rock, the *Rocher de Cancale*, and in front of La Houle the oyster-parks for which this part of the coast is so celebrated.

In 1758 an army of 14,000 English, under the Duke of Marlborough, landed here, but after fruitlessly summoning St. Malo, which was found too strong to be taken by assault, they re-embarked, having burned a few small vessels; and, as H. Walpole said, "The French learned that they were not to be conquered by every Duke of Marlborough." Omnibus daily from Cancale to St. Malo.

6 m. **St. Malo**, *Terminus* behind the Dock, equally distant from the town and *St. Servan*. (*Inns:* H. Franklin, excellent table-d'hôte; H. de France; H. de la Paix, dear, indifferent, and dirty.) This fortified seaport town (Pop. 10,693) may be styled a little French Cadiz from its position on what was once a rocky island (l'Ile d'Aron), now connected with the mainland by a long causeway called *Le Sillon*, forming the port. The town completely covers the island, so that its picturesque walls and flanking towers, surmounted by a deep cornice of machicoulis, rise at once from the water's edge; the houses and buildings squeezed closely together, having no room for lateral extension, rise to the height of 5 or 6 storeys above its narrow streets.

The tides rise here to a greater height than on any other point in the Channel, to an elevation of 45 to 50 ft. above low-water mark.

The *Town walls* afford an almost uninterrupted walk round the island; the circuit may be made in ¾ of an hour. The view seaward is varied by the little archipelago of islands;—white, angular, bare rocks, which raise their bristling heads around the roads, the larger ones crowned with forts and batteries. That called La Conchée is occupied by a citadel built by Vauban; Cézembre, 6 m. off, is also strongly fortified.

The public buildings are of no interest: on the side of the town nearest the Sillon, and separated from it by a bridge, is the *old Castle*, which, together with a large part of the fortifications, were completed in the 16th cent. by Anne of Brittany, who placed over one of the towers this inscription —"Qui qu'en grogne, ainsi sera, c'est mon plaisir." The *Cathedral*, very capacious and much modernised, has a choir something like that of Dol, and a new gaudy Gothic altar, with several marble statues, and a fine spire.

The statue opposite the Hôtel de Ville is that of *Duguay Trouin*, a native of St. Malo (born 1673), a naval hero of whom the French are justly proud.

Chateaubriand was buried on the Grand Bey islet (see below). He was born in the Rue des Juifs, No. 15; he was reared, however, in the H. de France, which has a fine façade and consists of two houses, that of the Governor, and that of the former mansion of the Chateaubriand family. The Abbé de Lamennais, author of 'Paroles d'un Croyant;' Jacques Cartier, the discoverer of Canada; and Mahé de la Bourdonnais, governor of the French East Indies, who took Madras from the English 1746, were also natives of St. Malo.

On the seashore, by the side of the

Sillon, beyond the castle, on the rt. of the road from Dol, is the *Etablissement des Bains*, with a *Reading-room*. There is a large expanse of sand extending at low water as far as a little rocky island in front, well adapted for bathing, and provided with machines.

St. Malo was bombarded by English fleets in 1692 and 1695—both times with slight results. In June, 1758, an army under the 2nd Duke of Marlborough, having landed in the Bay of Cancale, burned 80 vessels lying in the harbour.

St. Malo flourished during the last war, when it was styled the "Ville de Corsaires," fitting out privateers to prey on the commercial marine of England; many large fortunes were then made.

The *Harbour* of St. Malo is formed by the promontory of the Sillon and the islet covered by the town curving from N. to N.W., and meeting a similar arm of land stretching round from the S.W. on which stands *St. Servan*. These 2 arms inclose a nearly circular basin which is formed into a dock by double lock-gates, protected from the outer sea by a curved pier, on the end of which is a lighthouse. The centre of this basin is walled in by a circular dyke, retaining the tidal waters and letting them out by sluices to scour the outer basin. These harbour works have cost from first to last nearly 20 million francs and were completed under the Empire, with handsome quais on the N. nearly 2 m. long.

On the S. side of this harbour is *St. Servan*, reached by boat from the pier in a few minutes; fare 5 cent. (*Inns:* H. l'Union, Rue Dauphine; boarders taken at 45 frs. per week; H. Le Pelican, Grande Rue.) Pop. 12,327. An open, modern town, formerly a suburb of, but now exceeding St. Malo in extent and population. It occupies the shores of a gently-curved bay, open to the N., the W. side of which is separated from the embouchure of the Rance by a rocky headland ending in the Fort de la Cité. St. Servan probably occupies the site of Aleth, a town of which St. Malo or Maclou, a Welsh missionary and disciple of St. Brendan, became bishop, and died about A.D. 565. There is *Eng. Ch. Service* here, and also at St. Malo.

The best view to be obtained of St. Malo is from the *Fort de la Cité*, situated on the promontory a little to the W. of St. Servan. Hence from a considerable elevation you look down upon the town, upon the singular inlets of the sea branching out into the land which form the harbour, and on the archipelago of little islands grouped around its entrance. Among them the islet of *Grand Bey*, situated to the N.W. of the town, chosen by Châteaubriand for his last resting-place, and bestowed upon him by the municipality of his native town, is conspicuous. His fellow-citizens erected his tomb on it. Immediately beneath the spectator on l. rises the triangular tower of the *Solidor*, a feudal fort 60 ft. high, with flanking towers at its angles, approached by a drawbridge. It is now a prison, built in the 14th cent. by Duke Jean IV. It overlooks a small harbour (port Militaire) opening into the Rance.

A *Ferry Steamer* plies every hour to *Dinard* on the opposite side of the estuary of the Rance. (See Rte. 41.)

It is a pleasant excursion up the river Rance from St. Malo to Dinan. A small steamer ascends with the flood, and returns with the ebb tide, but it cannot be depended on for punctuality or certainty (Rte. 41).

Steamers twice a week, in about 3 hrs., to and from Jersey, whence Southampton may be reached. A direct steamer to and from Southampton in 12 hrs., on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

ROUTE 28.

ST. MALO TO RENNES—RAIL.

St. Malo to	Kil.	Miles.
Dol	24	15
Bonnemain	32	20
Combourg	40	25
Montreuil sur Ille	53	33
St. Germain	61	38
Betton	69	43
Rennes	82	51

3 trains daily, in 2½ hrs.

St. Malo and the Rly. as far as
15 m. *Dol* Stat. are described in Rte. 27.

9 m. *Combourg* Stat., a town of 5130 Inhab., famed for its sausages and horse-fair. The *Castle* (M. H.), of the 14th and 15th cents., has belonged to the Châteaubriands for 150 years, and before them to the Duras family. Châteaubriand, the writer and minister of Louis XVIII., spent part of his boyhood here, where his chamber and study remain unaltered. The château is a square building with towers in the 4 corners, inclosing a court: it is in perfect preservation, with its wall-galleries and loopholes. The present entrance, by a long flight of steps, is modern.

8 m. *Montreuil-sur-Ille* Stat. The canal from Dinan to Rennes (Rte. 41) is crossed here.

5 m. *St. Germain-sur-Ille* Stat.

5 m. *Betton* Stat.

8 m. RENNES Stat. (Rte. 34.)

ROUTE 29.

CAEN TO TOURS, BY COULIBŒUF (FALAISE), ALENÇON, AND LE MANS—RAIL.

Caen to	Kil.	Miles.
Mézidon Junct.	23	14
Coulibœuf (for Falaise)	43	26
Argentan	67	41
Alençon	110	68
Le Mans	166	103
Tours	265	165

Time, 7 to 9 hrs.; *trains*, 2 daily.

Caen to Mézidon, see Rte. 25. From Mézidon to Sées the line passes through a somewhat dreary and not very fertile country.

5 m. *St. Pierre-sur-Dives* Stat. The fine *Church* (M. H.) was formerly attached to a large Benedictine monastery, founded in 1046: the present edifice dates from the 13th and 14th cents. The towers of the W. front are fine; one, the S., Norman, the N. in the Pointed style with deeply moulded lancet windows. Some of the painted glass is very old, and there is some good stall work of the first half of the 16th cent. The chapter-house, near the N. transept, now converted into a stable, is a handsome specimen of Pointed Gothic. But a much more interesting object to the student of ecclesiastical architecture is to be found at about 4 m. from St. Pierre on the road to St. Julien, viz. the *Ch.* of *Vieux Pont-en-Auge*, which belongs to the 10th cent., and presents fine specimens of the peculiar masonry ("petit appareil") of that time. The interior has been whitewashed. At *Tort* is a *Ch.* in the Transition style, with a square E. end: in the walls of the aisles appears the herring-bone masonry of an older building.

7 m. *Coulibœuf* Junct. Stat. [Branch Rly. W. to *Berjou-Pont-d'Ouilly* Stat., on line from Caen to Laval (Rte. 35A), passing (6 m.)—

Falaise Stat. (*Inns:* H. du Grand Cerf, good, civil people; H. de Normandie, also good; H. de France). This ancient town of 8183 Inhab. occupies the summit of a lofty platform, bordering on a rocky precipice, or *Falaise*, whence its name. One very populous suburb has extended into the narrow ravine below this precipice; and another, situated at the distance of 1 m. to the E., called Guibray, now rivals the town itself in size, and is distinguished for its *Fairs* held in August, established by William the Conqueror, celebrated for the horses brought to market. Falaise is a dull lifeless town at present, but has one object of great interest to every traveller—the *Castle*, one of the few Norman fortresses remaining in France, the seat of the Dukes of Normandy, and the birthplace of William the Conqueror. It is a grand and picturesque ruin, occupying a commanding position at the extremity of the town, where the platform is cut into a narrow promontory by gullies which isolate it on 3 sides, rendering

it a place of great strength. To this it was indebted for the 9 sieges which it had to sustain. The approach to it is behind the modern H. de Ville. A college or *grammar-school* has been established within the outer court, and occupies a chapel said to be of the 12th cent. A grassy terrace walk along the ramparts, shaded with trees, leads to the Norman *Donjon Keep* (end of 11th cent.), an oblong square, whose walls, supported by high and massive buttresses, rise abruptly from the edge of the precipitous rocks of Norron. It is now a mere shell, but has been too much repaired; its walls show traces of herring-bone masonry, and retain several round-headed windows, of 2 lights supported on short pillars, and having capitals carved with Runic knots. In one corner a cell is shown in which, according to the tradition, the Conqueror was born, 1027. From those windows and ruined walls we look down into the Val d'Ante, so called from the small stream which runs through it, crowded with mills and tanneries. It was while gazing upon this scene, according to the tradition, that Duke Robert, the father of the Conqueror (like David of old), first espied Arlette, the tanner's fair daughter, washing in the stream, and became at once so smitten with her charms, that he made her his mistress, and continued faithful to her until death; after which she became the wife of Herlwin of Conteville, and the mother of Odo, the fighting Bishop of Bayeux. There are several remains of rooms in the keep, remarkable as having chimneys: the windows of a lower floor now inaccessible are visible. The Chapel has been converted into a powder magazine.

The keep is surpassed in elevation by *Talbot's tower*, a cylinder of beautifully smooth and perfect masonry, rising beside it to a height of more than 130 ft., crowned with a rim of broken machicoulis, the battlements and roof having been destroyed in the religious wars of the 16th cent. Its walls, 15 ft. thick, inclose a winding stair leading to the top, and a well opening into each of the 4 vaulted storeys, the lowest containing the Oubliettes. This tower is supposed to have been built by "Valiant Talbot," who was lord warden of the "Marche Normande," between 1418 and 1450, after the capture of Falaise by Henry V. It was repaired about 1835, and the new stone employed was of so bad a quality that it is actually decaying, whilst that 400 years old remains in good preservation. A temporary zinc roof has been placed on this tower. From the summit there is a splendid view. Henry V. assaulted the castle from the top of the still loftier cliff Mont Mirat (*Mons Mirabilis*), on the opposite side of the ravine, where traces of his intrenchments still remain: the siege lasted more than 4 months. On the other side of the castle is a relic of another siege, viz. the breach in the wall by which Henri IV. carried the fortress by assault in 1589, after a 7 days' cannonade. The whole castle is undergoing a too thorough restoration.

The *Ch. of St. Gervais* has an early Norman tower, beginning of the 12th cent., and the outside of the clerestory appears old, but most of the ch. has been modernised to a very florid Gothic. The *Ch. of Ste. Trinité* is of a debased Gothic profusely ornamented, chiefly of the 15th and 16th cents.

A bronze equestrian *statue of William the Conqueror*, by Louis Rochet, was set up by his fellow townsmen in 1851, in la Place de la Trinité, at the foot of the Castle, the costume of the hero being copied from the Bayeux tapestry.

A large portion of the old town *walls* remain, running round the edge of the ravines, through which the stranger may ramble agreeably, either upwards into the suburb of Val d'Ante, the birthplace of the Conqueror's mother, below the castle keep, or, issuing out of the picturesque "Porte des Cordeliers," the only gate remaining perfect, he may follow the direction of the Ante downwards through shady lanes, and re-enter the town by the dismantled Porte de St. Laurent. The *suburb of Guibray*, larger than the town, is devoted to the manufacture of hosiery (*bonnets de coton*), the ordinary headdress of men and women hereabouts, hand-machines for making which

whirr in every cottage. The *Ch.* dates from the 11th cent., but has been much altered. There are some Norman engaged columns round the walls, to which arches in brick and plaster were put in 1858. Part of the S. transept, the W. porch, and the font in the S. aisle deserve notice.]

The line from Coulibœuf continues S. to

15 m. **Argentan** Junct. Stat. (Buffet). (*Inns:* H. des Trois Maries, good; H. de Normandie; H. du Donjon). A dull old town of some 5401 Inhab., on the Orne. It was rebuilt by William the Conqueror after its destruction by Duke Robert of Normandy. Henry II. was staying here when the 4 knights set forth to murder Archbishop Becket at Canterbury. In later times the town was a stronghold of the Huguenots. Its ramparts and ditches have been converted into public walks and gardens, but the fine old trees are cut down. There are 2 large late Gothic *Churches* with some good old glass, and a semi-castellated building, now the Palais de Justice and prison.

[Rly., W. 82 m., to Granville. (See Rte. 35.)]

7 m. *Almenèches* Stat. The old *Château* and Renaissance *Ch.* are worth a visit. Bridges over the Don and the Orne.

3 m. *Surdon* Junct. Stat. [Rly., E. 114 m., to Paris. (See Rte. 35.)]

5 m. *Séez* Stat. (*Inn:* H. de Cheval Blanc; Dauphin). An old city with a population of 5006, possessing a very interesting *Cathedral.* Nave beginning of 13th cent., upper part later by 50 years. Choir rebuilt, c. 1260, after a fire; Lady chapel of the original work, 1230. The proportions of the interior are remarkably good. Formidable settlements have occurred in several parts, the main vault of the choir fell in, and has been restored in wood and plaster. Owing to original mal-construction, its spires are supported by huge buttresses, added in the 14th cent. Yet the W. front, of beginning of the 13th cent., has a fine appearance; with the lofty porches. *Obs.* the S.W. portal, a beautiful trefoil-headed doorway, which, as well as the great central doorway, retains its original door, also a good rose-window in the S. transept. The choir retains the Basilican arrangement; the high altar being at the intersection of the transept and nave, and the bishop's throne at the end of the apse.

In front of the Cathedral is the bronze *statue of Conté*, a citizen of Séez, one of the Savants of Egypt, whose celebrity arises from the improvements he introduced in the manufacture of black-lead pencils, long known in France as "Crayons Conté," by which he made a large fortune.

The chapel of the *Petit Séminaire* has good modern sculpture over the W. door.

After passing Séez, the appearance of the country improves, and it becomes more hilly.

12 m. **Alençon** Junct. Stat. (*Inns:* H. Grand Cerf, very good; H. de la Gare, near the Stat.; Poste). This chief town of the Dépt. de l'Orne, has a population of 16,115, and is a thriving place, situated on the Sarthe, near the junction of the Briante, in an open plain. Its manufactures consist chiefly of cotton and woollen, hempen and linen cloths, called "*Toiles d'Alençon.*"

The making of point lace, "Point d'Alençon," for which the town was long celebrated, was established here by Colbert. Cider and perry, the common drink of the country, are sold to a considerable extent, in casks called *pipes.*

The public buildings are not very remarkable. The *Ch. of Notre Dame* (M. H.) consists of a Gothic nave, built in the 16th cent., having some painted glass, injured by a storm, 1821.

Two high battlemented towers of the old *Castle* of the 13th cent. have been converted into a prison: the *Préfecture*, a brick building, was once a palace of the Dukes d'Alençon.

One of the most atrocious of the Revolutionary leaders, Hébert, the editor of the infamous journal 'Le Père

Duchesne,' was a native of Alençon. He was led trembling and weeping to the scaffold, to which he had condemned so many thousand innocent persons, in 1793, exhibiting in his last moments the most abject cowardice.

A *Museum* of Nat. History in the *H. de Ville* contains good specimens of Diamants d'Alençon, the name given to the crystals of smoky quartz found in the neighbouring granite-quarries; where a coarse beryl also occurs. Alençon is built of granite, which becomes the predominant rock of the country farther W.

[*Rly.*, E. 41 m., to Condé in Rte. 34; through *Mortagne* in Rte. 35. Public conveyances to Domfront in Rte. 31, and Mayenne in Rte. 35A.]

[About 10 m. from Alençon, on the road to Mortagne, is the great *Haras du Pin*, one of the most celebrated horse-breeding establishments in France.]

On leaving Alençon the rly. to Le Mans passes through a district which offers little interest by

10 m. *La Hutte* Stat., from which it follows the Valley of the Sarthe,

25 m. *Le Mans* Junct. Stat. [*Rly.* E. to Paris, and W. to Rennes (see Rte. 34). S.W. to Angers and Nantes (see Rte. 46).] A dreary heathy country succeeds.

24 m. *Aubigné* Junct. Stat. [Branch Rly. W. 16 m. to

La Flèche Stat. (*Inns:* H. de l'Image; H. l'Etoile; H. Lion d'Or), a town of 9292 Inhab. on the Loir. The *College* (*Prytanée Militaire*) was founded for the Jesuits by Henry IV., in 1607, to whom a *statue* was erected 1857 on the Place Henri IV. It became a military school in 1764, and is now used for the education of the sons of officers killed in battle. The chapel contains in a gilt leaden receptacle the cinders of the hearts of Henry IV. and Marie de Médicis.]

8 m. *Château du Loir* Stat. Here the rly. crosses the green valley of the Loir.

Soon afterwards numerous quarries of white stone will be seen, many of which are inhabited, and are said to be quite dry and healthy.

22 m. *Mettray* Stat., famous for its Reformatory (Rte. 53). The line emerges into the valley of the Loire; the river is crossed some miles below Tours, and the rly. then makes a great sweep to reach

8 m. **Tours** TERMINUS (Rte. 53).

ROUTE 31.

VIRE TO RENNES, BY MORTAIN AND TOUGÈRES.

120 kilom. = 75 Eng. m.

The whole of this route must be performed by carriage (unless the rail be taken at Fougères round by Vitré), and is interesting for the historical sites near it.

Vire is situated half-way between Argentan and Granville, and is a stat. on the direct line of rly. from Paris (see Rte. 35).

The road from Vire to Mortain (*Diligence* twice daily) proceeds S. to

8 m. *Sourdeval.* The Sée is crossed to

4 m. **Mortain.** (*Inns:* Poste, opposite the Ch., clean and comfortable. —*E. B.*; H. St. Guillaume.) This decayed town, of 2443 Inhab., occupies a position resembling that of Vire, and at least equally romantic. "The valleys are narrower, the steeps more rocky and better wooded; the river at the bottom is more considerable, and a wide extent of distant Campagna is seen through the jaws of the ravine.—*G. Knight.*

"You *descend* to the site of the old *Castle*, but when you arrive there you find it a most suitable spot for an eagle's nest. A jutting cliff, only connected to the height by a narrow ledge of rock, afforded just space enough for a feudal fortress. The strength of this fortress made it once a place of importance. Here dwelt the brothers and the sons of kings of England"

(Robert, the natural brother of the Conqueror, and Geoffrey Plantagenet). The whole of this venerable structure has been levelled with the dust, and in its place now rises the tasteless modern *Sous-Préfecture*.

The *Collegiate Church* (M. H.), in the midst of the town, and surmounted by a tower with long lancet windows, has been groundlessly pronounced to be a work of the year 1082, when a church is known to have been founded here. If there be anything remaining of that epoch, it is a circular doorway leading into the nave on the S. side, ornamented with zigzags and saw-tooth ornaments; the rest is of the pure and unmixed Early Pointed style of the 13th cent., and the clumsy junction of the new wall around the old circular portal is very apparent. The arches of the nave rest on thick short pillars; those of the choir are narrower. The summit of the hill above the cemetery commands a beautiful view, extending to Mont St. Michel.

About a mile out of the town, seated in a secluded valley, is the *Abbaye Blanche*, founded 1105. The *Church*, restored in 1850, is in the Transition style, round-headed windows alternating with pointed. An Early Pointed cloister also remains tolerably perfect. The abbey is now a Seminary for the education of the clergy.

The *Cascades* of Mortain, formed by the Cance, in a picturesque rocky and wooded glen, about a mile on the road to Vire, are the finest, and indeed almost the only ones, in Normandy.

About 16 m. E. of Mortain is Domfront, on the Rly. from Caen to Laval (see Rte. 35A).

10 m. *St. Hilaire du Harcouet*, a town of 3983 Inhab., between the Selune and Airon streams: its markets are much frequented. It possesses a fine modern *Gothic Church*. [About 4 m. from St. Hilaire on the border of Brittany are the ruins of the *Abbey of Savigny*, built 1173, of Transition character; but now so entirely a ruin, that the style can no longer be traced.] The frontier of Brittany is crossed about 4 m. to the N of

7 m. *Louvigne du Désert*. At the door of the posthouse De Lescure, the Vendéan chief, died of his wounds, and was buried at the road-side—site unknown.

10 m. **Fougères** Stat. (*Inn:* H. St. Jacques, clean and good). This town (11,200 Inhab.), once a frontier fortress, the key of Brittany on the side of Normandy, "is full of picturesque interest. The old town, built on a steep acclivity, shows traces of the middle ages; the ancient arcades still obtrude in places upon the streets. It is still surrounded by antique ramparts. There is a *Church* of some architectural interest, and a charming *promenade* on a high eminence commanding romantic prospects."—*G.*

Attached to the town walls, at the lower end, is the huge and picturesque ruined *Castle* (apply to M. Dubil, the tenant, for permission to visit), of which the Donjon, built by Olivier de Clisson, is gone. La Tour de Melusine, so named by the former owners, the Lusignans, from the *Fair M.*, from whom they claimed descent, is the oldest part; the rest of the 14th and 16th cents.; and the 12 outer towers and curtains are still later. Its approaches and defences are very curious. Its capture from the English by escalade, March, 1448, during a time of truce, completed their expulsion from Normandy. In 1794 Fougères was seized by the Vendéans. [Rly. N. to Pontorson and Mont St. Michel (Rte. 27) S., to Vitré (Rte. 34)].

12 m. *St. Aubin du Cormier*. Near this La Trémouille gained a decisive victory, in 1488, over Francis II. Duke of Brittany, the Duke of Orleans, afterwards Louis XII., and others, who had leagued against the Crown.

6 m. *Liffré*.

12 m. RENNES (in Rte. 34).

SECTION II.

BRITTANY.

INTRODUCTORY INFORMATION.

1. *Character of the Country.* 2. *Language.* 3. *People.* 4. *Celtic Remains classified.* 5. *Superstition.* 6. *Churches, Carvings, Flamboyant Gothic, Bone-houses, Kersanton Stone.* 7. *Connection with England.* 8. *Chouannerie.* 9. *Books to consult.* 10. *Tour of Brittany.* 11. *Accommodation for Travellers.*

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PROCEEDING westward, the smiling pasture-lands of Normandy are gradually exchanged for the rocky ravines, the rolling *landes*, and small inclosures of Brittany. The soil of the valleys and lowland meadows is not less fertile than that of Normandy, but there is so great an extent of barren or uncultivated land that its agricultural wealth is much inferior; extending out into the Atlantic, and almost surrounded by water, its atmosphere is more charged with moisture, and its granitic soil is less adapted for the growth of cereals, or the pasturage of cattle, than Normandy; heath, fern, and broom abound; the very broom (*genêt*) which supplied our first Plantagenet with his crest and name, and which is so beautiful a feature when in blossom that travellers should choose the early summer to enjoy the sight. In many points the country bears a strong resemblance to Scotland; the same wide, barren moors, the same deep and picturesque wooded dells and storm-beaten coasts. Here, however, are no grand lofty mountain-chains like the Grampians; the highest ridges of the Menez-Arrés hills, the back-bone of the peninsula of Brittany, rarely surpassing 1200 ft. above the sea-level.

2. In civilization it is behind almost every other part of France: its *inhabitants* are of Celtic origin, speaking a *Language* of their own, allied to the Welsh and Cornish; indeed, when French is not understood, Welsh will greatly aid a traveller who can speak it. It is more exclusively spoken in the villages of the interior than in the towns on the coast; its use is almost confined to the country W. of a line passing through St. Brieuc, Pontivy, and Lorient; the "Vraie Bretagne Brettonnante," as Froissart calls it, to distinguish it from "La Bretagne Douce," where French is spoken. One of the principal objects of interest and study for the stranger in Brittany will be its inhabi-

tants, who have been kept distinct from the rest of France by position as well as difference of language.

3. The *Peasantry* are almost as wild as their country, excessively quaint in their costume, wearing broad-brimmed hats and flowing hair, and in some districts trunk hose (bragous bras = breeks) of the 16th cent.; in others wrapped up in goat-skins in winter, like Robinson Crusoe, a costume which they retain as it was handed down from their ancestors. They are usually spare and wiry in their persons, but strong, active, and hardy; coarse-featured; squalid in their habitations; rude and unskilful in their agriculture. They are almost unchanged in their manners, customs, and habits: modern innovation has not entirely rubbed off the rust of long-continued habit; old legends and superstitions still retain their hold on the popular mind. They present a curious picture of a primitive state of society; and if a century behind their neighbours in what is called improvements, they are at least not corrupted by revolutions and commotions. In no part of France are the people, both of upper and lower orders, more observant of their religious duties, of festivals, fasts, &c.; nowhere are the churches so thronged.

"There is much picturesque beauty in Brittany, though of a character not so imposing at first sight as that of countries moulded on a grander scale. *Scenery* of great and winning loveliness is to be found on the banks of the Trieux, the river *Guier* at Lannion, the *Aulne* near Châteaulin, and the Rance, and in many other secluded and scarcely accessible valleys, where the 'broomie knowe,' the wooded dell, and the rocky cliff alternately border the brawling mountain torrent, as it flashes along its stony bed, or is pent up in the still pool of an old water-mill, which looks as if it had stood untouched (as it has perhaps) from the time of the 'good Duchess Anne.' The quaint and antique aspect of the buildings adds much to the picturesque character of the country. Some, as in Dinan, Morlaix, Quimper, &c., are framed of timber, with projecting storeys resting on grotesquely carved brackets; but generally the houses both in the towns and villages are of grey granite, with massive round or ogee arched imposts to the doors and windows, often enriched with Gothic mouldings; and presenting, from the peculiar colour and grain of the stone, an appearance of antiquity even in buildings recently erected. The churches again are features of great interest and beauty, scattered profusely over the country, and many a ruined castle or tower, or dilapidated 'manoir' with its old avenue, huge granite portals, round turrets, and 'extinguisher' roofs, recalls the days of the Breton chivalry. Add to these characteristic features, that the country is usually very intricate and thickly wooded, the inclosures being small and surrounded by high earthen banks, upon which, from six to ten feet above the level of the road or field, grows a close phalanx of timber-trees, oak, elm, or ash, gnarled and pollarded into grotesque forms, and intercepting all view, so as to give rise to constant excitement, as the scene changes almost at every step that the traveller advances."—*G. P. S.*

The way of living among the Bretons is homely and frugal to a degree, even when in circumstances to afford better fare. Of drink they unquestionably are fond, but it is not a regular habit with them to indulge in strong potations—cider, the produce of the country, is a favourite drink on Sundays and feasts. There is little wine made in the country, and consequently scarcely drunk by the peasantry, except in the southern districts; but they consume large quantities of a coarse spirit made from potatoes and beetroot. They live much upon buckwheat made into cakes, and mix rye with their wheat into a coarse meal, which forms a dark-coloured bread; these with savoury esculents, and at times salt-fish and meat, constitute the staple of their subsistence. The most perceptible feature of difference, perhaps, between Normandy and Brittany, is that, in the former, large and commodious farm-buildings are observed around the farmer's dwelling, whilst in Brittany it is rare to

see a barn, or granary, or roomy out-house. And till lately the Bretons pursued the wasteful habit of threshing out their corn in August, on an open floor, and housing it in the grain; paying enormously for such labour (to an ambulant class called "les batteurs"), and losing the otherwise valuable season of warmth and daylight for cleaning and working the soil against seed-time. Now, however, steam threshing-machines have been introduced, the agriculture of some districts is more advanced, and near Roskoff and Lannion is really good. Hemp, flax, rape, and onions are largely grown, besides the ordinary cereals, and many of the wild heaths have been planted or brought under cultivation.

Finistère, one of the strangest districts of Europe, is to be seen properly only in its villages and its churches and country towns *on a Sunday* or Fête-day. Then alone are the population abroad in their quaint and showy garbs, crowding the roads, squares, and churchyards; at other times the natives are lost in their fields and workshops.

The indescribable forms of many of the caps worn by the Bretonnes are worth remarking. Both Norman and Breton caps are pleasing auxiliaries to the scenery, which they enliven by their snowy whiteness. Old point lace is not unfrequently discerned on peasant heads, and these curious and costly "coiffures" sometimes adorn the brows of more than one generation in turn.

It is the Bretons who chiefly man the navy of France: their qualities are eminently suited to the seafaring life, and the perseverance and patient courage they display stand out in contrast with the natives of other provinces of France, and denote a totally different origin. It is not a little remarkable that the Bretons in France should be naturally sailors, whilst the native Irish, Welsh, and Scotch of the same race are all averse to the sea.

4. Of *Ancient Monuments* of different ages there is no lack in Brittany, and, above all, of Celtic Remains; those extraordinary masses of rude unhewn stones whose objects, age, and uses have never been satisfactorily accounted for, but which are supposed to have been in some way connected with the religion of the Druids, and their number would prove this country to have been the chief seat of that mysterious worship. In Great Britain we possess a few, and, above all, we have in Stonehenge a more stupendous monument than any elsewhere; but in Brittany the number is enormous; almost every wild heath possesses one or more. They are most numerous, however, on the storm-beaten promontories and islands of the W. coast; especially in the Morbihan, which includes the wondrous stony array of *Carnac* and the monstrous granitic obelisk of *Lokmariaker*.

These rude Remains are of several different kinds, and distinguished by the following names:—

a. *Menhir* (literally long stone: Ir-min-Sul; long stone of the sun) is a monolith in the form of a rude obelisk set upright on one end, whose height much exceeds its breadth. There is a menhir near Dol which rises 30 ft. above the ground, but the largest specimen of this class known is at Plouarzel, near Brest; it exceeds 42 ft. in height. That at Lokmariaker, now laid prostrate and broken, was more than 60 ft. high.

b. *Peulven* (pillar of stone), an upright stone of inferior height to the menhir; the single stones at Carnac are generally of this class.

c. *Dolmen* (from "taal," table, and "maen," or men, stone), in England commonly called Cromlech, is an arrangement of rude blocks, by which one or more upright stones are made to support a horizontal block or slab. Sometimes they resemble a table, the upright stones serving merely as props or legs, and are called in French "pierres levées," or "pierres couvertes;" at others the supporting stones are wide slabs, so arranged as to fit close to one another, and so lofty as to allow a man to walk upright beneath the horizontal roof-stone which they support. Kit's Coity House in Kent is an example of this kind,

and there are others in Cornwall, but inferior in size to those of Brittany, which are often 60 or 80 ft. long. The French sometimes call them "allées couvertes."

d. *Kistvaen* is similar to the Dolmen, inasmuch as it consists of two rows of upright stones supporting flat blocks; but the stones are smaller, and fit more closely together, and the whole structure lower and longer, generally closed at the ends; it appears to correspond with the "Hunnengräber" of North Germany. The most remarkable example is on the island *Gavr Innis* near Lokmariaker.

e. *Galgal* is a tumulus, barrow, or cairn, often containing a sepulchral chamber: the largest known is the *Butte de Tumiac* on the shore of the Sea of Morbihan.

The Celtic remains are not confined to Brittany, though most numerous there; they occur almost invariably on some flat open plain at a distance from the hills, in situations corresponding with Salisbury Plain and Dartmoor in England. Brittany appears, like our Mona, to have been the sacred land of the Gauls, the centre of their worship, to which probably the various nations and tribes repaired on pilgrimage at stated times to pay their devotions.

Of the particular destination or object of these rude elevations in general, or of the individual uses of the different classes enumerated above, no satisfactory explanation has been offered. The accumulated ranges, the long avenues of stones of Carnac and Erdevan, amounting to thousands in number, may have stood in the place of temples where rites of initiation and purification similar to the Grecian mysteries may have been performed. The upright solitary menhir may have been a symbol of some individual deity, as the sun; the dolmen may have served as an altar or shrine; and the galgal and kistvaen were probably monumental. Equally unexplained are the mechanical means by which a rude people contrived to transport, and to elevate one above another, such huge masses.

5. Their mysterious influence is not yet, by any means, effaced from the mind of the lower orders in Brittany. The first teachers of Christianity in this region found this attachment to superstition so strong, that, after in vain attempting to eradicate it by overthrowing and destroying these huge stones, they altered their plan to that of engrafting, to a certain extent, their own faith upon the old idolatrous worship of stones and fountains, converting the dolmen into a chapel, and making the menhir serve as a pedestal to a crucifix, which it commonly does even to the present day.

The influence of paganism lingered long in these remote wilds, attached as it was to visible objects; indeed, the inhabitants of Ouessant are said to have been idolaters until within 150 years.

Hence has arisen a strange jumble of Paganism and Romanism; thus pilgrimages are made to fountains by those who desire to be relieved from some malady, by pouring its water over the affected part: and visits are paid in the depth of night to some solitary menhir by the barren woman, who hopes to become fruitful by rubbing her bosom against the hard stone. Some of these inanimate objects also are supposed to possess virtue in curing the diseases of cattle. Heathen divinities were replaced by saints, of which the number in Brittany exceeds that of any other part of Romanist Europe; most of them are peculiar to the country, their names being unknown elsewhere, and their canonization conferred rather by the popular voice than with the authority of the Pope. Almost every church has its strange legend, and every saint his special patronage, and on his fête-day a pilgrimage or *Pardon* is celebrated, when indulgence for past sins is obtained, and the penitent pilgrims are no sooner shrived than they begin to run up a fresh score at the riotous festivities which follow these assemblies. These *Pardons*, or village festivals, which are nearly equivalent to the German kirchweih, the Flemish kermes, and the

English *wake*, deserve the attention of strangers, from the illustrations they afford of Breton life, manners, and costume.

6. *Gothic Architecture.*—The *Choir of Le Mans* Cathedral, included in this section, is *the crowning glory of the best period of Gothic art in France.* Its interior is without a rival. Chartres, a noble edifice, is better known, but the lover of Gothic ought not to visit the one and leave the other unseen. The *Ecclesiastical Monuments* of Brittany are not so interesting as those of Normandy, but the architecture is of a different style, chiefly the florid or Flamboyant Gothic, and of a much later period: indeed, even in architecture, Brittany seems to have been behind the rest of the world, and the styles of building only reached it when superseded in other parts. The following remarks apply generally to all parts of France, yet will not be out of place here. "The most obvious characteristics of the *Flamboyant style* are the flat 3-centred arches of doorways, the entire independence of different pilasters upon the same pier as regards the vertical height of their base mouldings, the scrupulous interpenetration of different mouldings, and the absence of capitals if the arch mouldings are continued on the pier, or their dying gradually into the pier by penetration if they are not continued on it."—*G. B. A.* There are some peculiarities in "the Breton style" which render it well worthy the attention of architects. In elaborateness and profuseness of ornament, in the minuteness and delicacy of carving, especially of the foliage (for the figures are inferior), there are some churches in Brittany which yield to few in any part of Europe. As instances may be mentioned those of *Folgoet* near Brest, *St. Pol de Léon*, *St. Thégonnec* near Morlaix, *St. Herbot* near Poullaouen, and the cathedral of *Nantes.*

The Department of Finistère is the quarter in which churches more especially abound; it is as profusely supplied as Lincolnshire, and many of the village churches are of unusual size and richness. "In the churches near Brest, instead of building a tower with 4 walls, containing windows or panel-work, the practice seems to have been to raise stages or floors, one upon another on open arches, so as to make a kind of square pagoda, not contracting in dimensions, through which in certain directions the light is seen and the arch piers look comparatively small. This peculiarity deserves attention from architects."—*G. B. A.*

Several of the churches, even in remote situations, as at St. Herbot, are decorated internally with *carvings in wood* and stone; roodlofts still exist at Folgoet, St. Fiacre le Faouet (of painted and sculptured oak), Lambader, &c., though scarcely found elsewhere on the Continent: painted glass is by no means uncommon. These very gorgeous churches of Brittany were erected principally from the end of the 14th to the beginning of the 16th cent.

Formerly the churchyards and even roadsides were adorned with *Crucifixes* of elaborate execution, and comprising a multitude of figures; "most of them suffered by the Revolution, but many exquisite examples remain, and hardly a single point of intersection of two roads can be passed which is not marked by a more or less mutilated cross, oftentimes restored by the piety of the present generation."—*G. P. S.*

The *Bone-house* or *Reliquaire* will be constantly found in the Breton churchyards, and illustrates a curious custom. To allow "the rude forefathers of the hamlet" to repose quietly in the grave is opposed to the ideas of piety and affection in these rude people: after a certain number of years the survivors are required to show their remembrance and respect for their parents and relations by removing the skulls and bones from the coffin and placing them in the Ossuary,—where the former are arranged on shelves, open to the view of all, each with the name or initials in black paint written across the fleshless brow.

The *Calvary* in the Breton churchyards is a peculiar erection: it is generally a four-sided stone gallery, over the yawning bone-pit, in the centre of the

cemetery. On the sides and round the top are figures in granite, generally of life-size: bas-reliefs of the history of our Saviour, such as the Last Supper, the Scourging, the Crucifixion, the Judgment; and allegorical figures of Heaven and Hell. Sermons are preached from the platforms on these Calvaries on certain occasions, especially in Lent. Among the most celebrated are those of Plougastel near Brest, St. Thégonnec, Guimiliau, &c.

One cause of the profuse decoration of the churches, and of their excellent preservation, may be referred to the materials employed—a greenstone, peculiar to Brittany, called *Kersanton* (St. Anthony's house), remarkable for the facility with which it is worked, and its tenacity in withstanding atmospheric influences. It is a hornblende rock, with a mixture of oxide of iron, in particles minutely disseminated. It is found only in two localities, on the W. of the harbour of Brest, near the escarped rocks of Quelern, between the river of Faou and that of Landerneau. It is regarded as of igneous origin from the rocks adjacent showing marks of dislocation, caused by its intrusion. The weather has scarce any destructive effect on it, even after a lapse of ages; and its peculiarly bright green colour gives to a portal carved out of it the appearance of being in bronze.

Of churches in the Romanesque or Norman style the examples are few: among them are the church of Dinan and the *chapel of Lanleff*, which, after all the disputes of learned antiquaries respecting its origin and great age, is probably an equivalent to the round churches of England.

The cathedral of Dol nearly corresponds in style to the Early English; and the tradition of the country attributes it and some of the later churches to English architects. This is not surprising, considering the long and early connection between Great Britain and Little Britain to the S. of the Channel—*Armorica*, as it was styled, which the careful researches of historians and philologists have proved to have been colonised by natives of Britain after the 6th century, partly during the Roman dominion, partly after the invasion of the Saxons. From Brittany, if we believe the native traditions, we derive our most popular romances, our nursery and fairy tales. Arthur here held his court with the Knights of the Round Table; and the cradle of Merlin was on the Ile de Sein, a low sand-bank in that stormy sea la Baie des Trépassés.

7. Many of the names of places closely resemble those of Wales and Cornwall. Brittany also has its *Cournouaille*, equally celebrated with our own for wrestling matches, held annually, at which the true Cornish hug is said to be given; and for wreckers, whose infamous trade is promoted by the ever-raging sea and iron-bound coast. The Droit de Bris, right of "jetsam and flotsam," is, however, nearly abolished in France as in England: and the time is past when a race or whirlpool was as productive to a landlord as a mine or fishery.

English armies have fought and bled on this soil of Brittany; and the chivalric heroes of our history, Edward III., Chandos, Sir Walter Manny, were opposed to no unworthy antagonists in the Duguesclins and Clissons. In the castle of Elven, Henry of Richmond passed 15 years of his youth, though a prisoner, yet protected from the vengeance of the Yorkists.

A perusal of Froissart will be a good preparation for a visit to Brittany.

8. Brittany, old-fashioned in all things, is still the stronghold of that old-fashioned virtue, loyalty to its sovereign; and, besides sharing in the horrors and glory of the war in support of the legitimate monarch, which had its rise in La Vendée, was the seat of a hard-fought contest of its own, called *La Chouannerie*, from the cry, "chou, chou," in imitation of the night-owl, the signal for onset among the Breton peasantry, originally employed as a sign by smugglers in their nocturnal expeditions. Memorials or recollections of these struggles will be encountered by the traveller at every step.

9. Those who desire full information respecting the antiquities, customs, legends, and poetry of the Bretons should read *Souvestre's* excellent works, 'Les

Derniers Bretons' and 'Les Foyers Bretons,' and *Fréminville's* 'Finistère and Morbihan.' For its churches and Druidic remains consult *Mérimée*, 'Notes d'un Voyage dans l'Ouest de la France;' for its history, *Daru: Louth's* 'Traveller in Western France,' and *Villemarqué's* 'Chansons Populaires de la Bretagne,' will repay the perusal. Joannes's 'Itinéraire de la Bretagne' affords many details and useful information which our limits will not permit of insertion. Mrs. Palliser's 'At Home with the Bretons' is a good work on the country.

10. *Skeleton Tour of Brittany.*

Brittany is accessible to travellers from England, by steamers either direct from Southampton to St. Malo, a very good starting-point, or from Southampton to Havre or Cherbourg, and thence by land through Normandy, or by steamer to Morlaix.

The traveller coming from Paris may commence his tour at Rennes, but the capital of Brittany possesses few of the characteristic features of the province.

*Dol.
*St. Malo.
*Dinan.
*St. Brieuc.
Lanleff.
Paimpol.
Tréguier.
*Morlaix.
St. Pol de Léon.
Le Folgoet.
St. Thégonnec.
Landivisiau.
La Roche Maurice.
*Landerneau.
*Brest—dockyard.
The Sea Grotto of Crozon.
Pointe St. Matthieu.
*Châteaulin (by water).
Carhaix.
*Quimper.
[Pointe du Raz, Penmarch.]
*Quimperlé.
*Lorient—dockyard.
*Auray.
Carnac and Lokmariaker.
[Peninsula of Rhuys.]
*Vannes.
*Redon.
Josselin.
*Napoléonville (Pontivy).
La Roche Bernard.
*Nantes.

All the large towns can be now visited by rly., but to see Brittany in its peculiar features the tourist must diverge from the highways, so as to include all the places in the above list, and to include particularly Josselin, Ploërmel, Pontivy, Carhaix, Huelgoet, and Le Faouet. The places marked by an * are upon rly. lines, from which there are public conveyances to most of the others.

11. *Accommodation for Travellers.* Brittany is accessible from England at little expense, and travelling in it, including Inns, is moderate. In the large towns, they are good; while even in spots remote from the high roads the fare and the accommodation have improved of late years. The people are civil, and seem to be less dirty than formerly; still much is wanting in most of the inns to render them even *tolerable* for English ladies. The state of *private conveniences* in the W. of France is a disgrace to the landlords of inns, and cannot be too often pointed out, with a view to an amendment.

Fishing.—The Rivers of Brittany, though no longer unvisited by *anglers*, will still afford good sport for trout and salmon. The best streams are the *Blavet* in its upper and lower course, accessible from Guingamp, Bourbriac, St. Nicholas de Salem (Joanne's *Inn*), Carhaix, and the *Canal de Brest;* Belle Isle en Terre on the *Guier;* The *Trieux* near Pontrieux.

Travelling Map. That published by Auguste Logerot, Quai des Augustins, 8 frs. in case, may be had at Nantes or Rennes.

ROUTE 33.

PARIS TO VERSAILLES—RAIL.

2 railroads, one on the l. (a), continued to Chartres and Le Mans, Rte. 34; the other on the rt. bank of the Seine (b).

a. *Chemin de Fer, Rive Gauche.*

Distance, 12 m.; *time*, 40 minutes; *trains* every hour.

Terminus, Boulevard Montparnasse, 44.

Before issuing beyond the line of the fortifications, Grenelle and Vaugirard are seen on the rt., now forming considerable manufacturing centres; and on the l. Montrouge, where are numerous quarries of building-stone.

1 m. *Ouest-ceinture* Stat. The line here intersects with the Chemin de fer de ceinture, and beyond the fortifications passes the villages of *Vanves* and *Issy*, the forts of which suffered severely during the bombardment of Paris by the Germans in 1870, and the subsequent occupation of them by the Commune, and have since been superseded by the new and more distant fortifications. The name of Issy is fancifully derived from a temple of Isis! In the *Château* Fénélon was interrogated by a council of bishops styled the Conference of Issy, on certain points of doctrine; and here Cardinal de Fleury died, 1745. The *Château* of *Vanves* (village on rt.) was formerly the property of the Condés, built by Mansard for the Duc de Bourbon, but is now a College.

3 m. *Clamart* Stat. The village, half hid among the trees, on the l., was the country retreat of La Fontaine, of the Abbé Delille (who wrote here his poem 'L'Imagination'), and of Condorcet.

Emerging from a deep cutting, we traverse on a lofty *viaduct* (Pont du Val) of 2 ranges of arches 108 ft. high, the pretty Val Fleury, commanding a view of the château of Meudon on the l., while the Seine is perceived on the rt.

1 m. *Meudon* Stat. A little on the l. lies the village of 5417 Inhab. Rabelais was curé of Meudon, 1550.

The *Château*, belonging to the Crown, approached by a fine avenue of 4 rows of lime-trees, was built by the Grand Dauphin, son of Louis XIV. (who died in it), from designs of Mansard, 1699, by the side of an older château now destroyed, the work of Philibert Delorme, which the widow of the minister Louvois sold to Louis XIV. During the Revolution the Comité du Salut Public converted it into a factory for inventing and perfecting warlike engines, and surrounded it with a permanent camp to keep out spies. The château was fitted up for Marie Louise by Napoleon, 1816, but reduced to a heap of ruins during the bombardment of Paris in 1871. The best things about it are its situation and its gardens laid out by Le Nôtre, but rearranged on a more modern plan, The view from the *terrace* is very fine.

The *Forêt de Meudon* is a favourite holiday resort of the Parisians. Near this stat. the fatal accident occurred on this rly., May 1842, when, by the fracture of the axle of a locomotive, several of the foremost carriages of a long train were crushed, thrown upon the engine, and set on fire, and more than 100 persons were burnt, amongst them Admiral Dumont d'Urville, the eminent circumnavigator. An expiatory *chapel*, dedicated to Notre Dame des Flammes, has been erected on the spot where this catastrophe occurred. Another cutting succeeds before reaching

1 m. *Bellevue* Stat., named from a villa built 1750 to please Madame de Pompadour, but pulled down in part during the Revolution. There are many handsome country residences here, and it commands a lovely view of the valley of the Seine, with Paris in the distance.

1 m. **Sèvres** Stat., contiguous to Bellevue, and situated on the l. bank of the river, 6 m. distant from Paris, between 2 hills, the hill of Meudon on the l. and that of St. Cloud on the rt., along whose slopes the 2 railways to Versailles are

carried. Sèvres (Pop. 6754), like Faenza and Delft, gives its name to the china made in it, and for which it is principally known. The old *manufactory* was in a large building, erected in 1755, when the works were transferred from Vincennes, and purchased by Louis XV. It is now removed into a magnificent edifice near the bridge, and belongs to the State. Besides the show-rooms filled with objects for sale, there is a very complete and curious *Porcelain Museum* (*Musée Céramique*), consisting of clay, earthenware, and china of all countries and periods, from the oldest Greek and Etruscan vases down to the most recent productions of the nations of Europe and Asia, China, Japan, and the East Indies, and of many of the rude tribes of America. Here is a series of all the objects made in the establishment since its commencement, marking the change of fashion and forms: also the various materials, earths, calces, colouring matters used in the manufacture. The Kaolin, or white clay, comes from St. Yrieix, near Limoges. The paintings are very remarkable from the talents of the artists employed, and the skill displayed in the burning of the colours gives an equal pre-eminence to Sèvres ware. Several pictures by ancient and modern masters have been copied in the size of the originals; some were painted on the china tablet in Italy and sent over to Sèvres to be burnt, and again sent abroad to be retouched. The *manufacture of painted glass* has been revived and brought to considerable perfection here, and mosaic work has of late been introduced.

The park of St. Cloud reaches as far as Sèvres; there are 2 entrances to it from the town.

The high road, and the *Chemin de fer*, rive droite, now run parallel and within a short distance of our line on rt.

A deep cutting through part of the crown forests leads to

2 m. *Chaville* Stat., so called from a village on the l.

1 m. *Viroflay* Stat. Rly. to Chartres diverges here on rt.

2 m. **Versailles** Stat., in the Avenue de la Mairie, about 1½ m. from the palace.—See *Handbook of Paris.*

b. *Chemin de Fer, Rive Droite.*

Distance, 15 m.; *time*, ¼ hr.; *trains* every hr.

Terminus in Paris, 120 Rue St. Lazare, the same as the St. Germain and Rouen railways, and the 3 railways use the same line of rails as far as Asnières.

For the line as far as

3 m. *Asnières* Stat., see Rte. 8. Here the line turns to the l. out of that to St. Germain (See Rte. 9).

2 m. *Courbevoie* Stat., pop. 13,300. The large barrack, built by Louis XV., is seen on the l., and beyond it the Arc de l'Etoile.

1 m. *Puteaux* Stat. A fine view is obtained of Paris and the Seine from this part of the line, while skirting the W. flanks of Mont Valérien.

1 m. *Suresnes* Stat.

3 m. **St. Cloud** Stat.; for description of which, its ruined château, park, &c., see *Handbook of Paris.*

The railway is carried under a part of the park of St. Cloud by a *Tunnel* 1650 ft. long.

1 m. *Ville d'Avray* Stat. for *Sèvres.* Both railways have stations here, but at some distance from the town, as well as at

3 m. *Viroflay* Stat.

rt. The village of Montreuil was the birthplace of General Hoche, who commenced life as an under-groom in the royal stables, and rose to be commander of the army of the Moselle.

1 m. **Versailles** Stat., Rue Duplessis, Boulevard de la Reine. 1 m. from Palace, *omnibus*, 30 c.—See *Handbook of Paris.*

ROUTE 34.

PARIS TO RENNES BY CHARTRES AND LE MANS.—RAIL.

Paris.	Kil.	Miles.
Versailles	18	11
Rambouillet	48	30
Chartres	88	55
Nogent le Rotrou	149	92
Le Mans	211	131
Laval	301	187
Vitré	336	208
Rennes	374	232

Chemin de Fer de l'Ouest. Terminus in Paris, Boulevard Montparnasse. 4 trains daily to Rennes in 8 hours. 8 to Chartres, Le Mans, &c.

For the description of the line from Paris to

12 m. *Versailles* Junct. Stat., see Rte. 33, *Rive Gauche* Rly.

3 m. *St. Cyr* Junct. Stat. [Rly. to Dreux for Granville, &c., Rte. 35.] Pop. 2308. The town is only remarkable for the large conventual buildings converted by Napoleon I. (1806) into a Military School—a destination which it still preserves; it was originally founded by Louis XIV., at the suggestion of Madame de Maintenon, as a school for 250 young ladies of noble birth, and Mansard furnished the designs for it. Racine's tragedies of Esther and Athalie, written for the pupils of the establishment, were here first represented in the presence of the King and Madame de Maintenon. She retired hither after Louis's death, and dying here, 1719, was buried in the church.

4 m. *Trappes* Stat.

[2½ m. from this, near *Magny*, at *Les Hameaux*, about 8 m. from Versailles, are the scanty remains of the once celebrated Abbaye of *Port Royal des Champs*, destroyed by royal decree 1709, at the instigation of the Jesuits, as the headquarters of Jansenism, after the nuns, its tenants, had been subjected to cruel persecution in order to compel them to subscribe to the bull of Alexander VII. against the doctrines of Jansen. In 1644 a number of learned men and profound divines, professing the same doctrines, settled in a farmhouse near the convent, called Les Granges, repairing hither for study; and here composed those works which, as "they were published anonymously, are known by the name of their place of residence. Arnauld, Nicole, are among the Messieurs de Port-Royal—an appellation so glorious in the 17th cent."—*Hallam.* Boileau and Pascal were their friends, and Racine, who wrote their history, their pupil.

"He whose journey lies from Versailles to Chevreuse will soon find himself at the brow of a steep cleft or hollow, intersecting the monotonous plain across which he has been passing. The brook which winds through the verdant meadows beneath him reflects the dovecot (Colombier) rising from its banks, with the farmhouse, a solitary decayed tower, the forest-trees, and innumerable shrubs and creepers which clothe the slopes of the valley. France has many a lovelier prospect, though this is not without its beauty, and many a field of more heart-stirring interest, though this, too, has been ennobled by heroic daring; but through the length and breadth of that land of chivalry and of song, the traveller will in vain seek a spot so sacred to genius, to piety, and to virtue. The round tower of the dovecot and the bases of the piers of the abbey *chapel* are all which remain of the once crowded monastery of Port-Royal. In those woods Racine first learned the language—the universal language—of poetry. Under the roof of that humble farmhouse, Pascal, Arnauld, Nicole, De Sacy, and Tillemont meditated those works which, as long as civilization and Christianity survive, will retain their hold on the gratitude and reverence of mankind. There were given innumerable proofs of the graceful good-humour of Henri IV. To this seclusion retired the heroine of the Fronde, Ann Geneviève, Duchess of Longueville, to seek the peace the world could not give. Madame de Sévigné discovered here a place 'tout propre à inspirer le désir de faire son salut.' From Versailles there came hither to worship God many a courtier and many a beauty, heartbroken or jaded with the very vanity of vanities—the idolatry of their

fellow-mortals. Survey French society in the 17th cent. from what aspect you will, it matters not, at Port-Royal will be found the most illustrious examples of whatever imparted to that motley assemblage any real dignity or permanent regard. Even to the mere antiquary it was not without a lively interest."—*Stephen.*]

[The magnificent *Château de Dampierre*, of red brick, in the lovely vale of Chevreuse, built from Mansard's design, was partly destroyed at the Revolution, but has been restored by its owner, the Duc de Luynes, one of the most intellectual, talented, and respected of the old French aristocracy. It has been adorned with paintings by *Ingres*, and with sculptures by *Simart*. It contains a silver statue, life size, of Louis XIII., and is surrounded by gardens beautifully laid out. The well-timbered park has an area of 2000 acres. The valley is one of the prettiest spots in the vicinity of Paris.]

13 m. **Rambouillet** Stat., a dull town of 4228 Inhab., remarkable only for its *Château*, long the residence of the kings of France, down to the time of Charles X., who, after the July revolution, here signed his abdication of the French throne, Aug. 2, 1830. It is a gloomy and ugly pile of red brick, with 5 flanking towers of stone, destitute of interest beyond what it may derive from its history. A chamber is shown in the great round tower where Francis I. died in 1547. The park and extensive forest adjoining were the favourite sporting-ground of Charles X. The château was converted by Napoleon III., in 1852, into a place of education for officers' daughters.

The rly. continues along a fertile plain, and then descends into the valley of the Guesle, following its sinuosities, as far as

8 m. *Epernon* Stat. The name of this town was changed from Autrist to Epernon by Henry III., who erected it and the district around into a duchy for his favourite Nogaret. It retains portions of its old walls and towers, and is prettily situated on the banks of the Guesle, under a commanding rock.

[*Omnibus* from this and the next stat. to 5 m. S. *Gallardon*, a town of 1700 Inhab., with ruins of a *Castle* erected in the 11th cent. by Geoffry Count of Chateaudun, on a height 400 ft. above the confluence of the Ocre with the Voise, and demolished by Dunois in 1442. The *Ch.*, a mixture of Romanesque, Gothic, and Renaissance, formerly belonged to the Abbey of Bonneval. *Obs.* the carved façade of a wooden house of the 15th cent., near the entrance to the town on the Maintenon side. 3 m. from the town is the *Château of Eselimont*, belonging to, and restored by the Duke de la Rochefoucauld-Bisaccia, and visited by the Prince of Wales in 1874. Over the entrance is an equestrian statue of Francis de la Rochefoucauld, godfather of Francis I.

5 m. **Maintenon** Stat. is situated between the ruined aqueduct of Louis XIV. (see below) and the imposing modern rly. viaduct of 32 arches, 65 ft. high, raised on light piers. The *Château* was given by Louis XIV., with the estate and title of Marquise de Maintenon, to Françoise d'Aubigné, widow of Scarron, at the time when the king made her his wife. Their marriage is said to have been celebrated in the chapel of the castle by the Père la Chaise in the presence of Harlay and Louvois, 1685, she being 50 years old and Louis 47. The *Castle* stands on the river-side, and belongs to the Duc de Noailles, by whom it has been restored. The round towers and chapel are parts of the original structure raised by Cocquereau, treasurer to Louis XI. and Charles VIII. The bedroom of Mad. de Maintenon is shown.

From the rly. there is an excellent view of the imposing ruins of the *Aqueduct*, constructed 1684–88, by Louis XIV., to convey the waters of the Eure from Pont Gouin to Versailles, but afterwards abandoned for the hydraulic works at Marly.

"As Louis had committed the blunder of building in a place without water, he proposed to remedy his mistake by conveying the river eight leagues, by a new channel, to adorn

his park. To accomplish this it was necessary to join two mountains at Maintenon, and form an aqueduct: 40,000 troops were employed in this great work, and a camp formed expressly for the purpose. From the unhealthiness of the work or of the air, a great mortality ensued; the dead were carried away in the night-time, that their companions might not be discouraged: but the loss of many thousand lives to please the wanton caprice of a despot excited no sympathy and created no surprise. The war of 1688, however, interrupted the labour, and it was never afterwards resumed."—*Lord J. Russell.* The aqueduct was partly pulled down, after a lapse of 65 years, to build the château of Crécy, near Dreux, for Mad. de Pompadour. The remains consist of 14 out of 47 arches, 42 ft. span and 83 high. The total length of the canal, of which this was to form a part, would have exceeded 33 m.

After leaving Maintenon across a viaduct of 32 arches we enter the great plain called *La Beauce*, comprising some of the finest corn-land in France. In the early summer it is an uninterrupted ocean of waving corn as far as the eye can reach—without hedges, little varied by trees or houses. "In crossing this monotonous plain I was much struck with the number of churches. I counted at one time about 13, yet the villages are neither numerous nor large."—*P. H.*

Rather more than 1 m. from Chartres the river Eure is crossed on a viaduct of 11 arches. The twin steeples of Chartres are conspicuous a long way off.

11 m. **Chartres** Junct. Stat. (Buffet) (*Inns:* H. de France; H. du Duc de Chartres, good and clean, excellent cuisine).

Post Office on the Boulevard.

This city of 19,531 Inhab., on the site of *Autricum* (Civitas Carnutum), once capital of the province of La Beauce, now of the Dépt. d'Eure et Loir, is situated on a slope, at the bottom of which runs the Eure, washing the only remaining portion of the old fortifications and one of the city gates, the picturesque *Porte Guillaume*; the other gates have been pulled down, the ramparts levelled into public walks, and the town thrown open. Chartres is remarkable in a *commercial* point of view for one of the largest corn-markets in France, held every Saturday, where the produce of the Beauce is disposed of; and for its

***Cath. of Notre Dame* (M.H.), one of the most magnificent and strongly built in Europe, conspicuous far and near, with its two tall but unequal bell-towers and spires surmounting the hill on which the city stands. Among its most striking and interesting features, after its vast dimensions and elegant proportions, are its 2 rich and singular lateral portals, its painted glass, scarcely equalled in France, and its 3 rose-windows.

The *Crypt*, running under the whole extent of the choir aisles, seems to be the only part remaining of the first ch., destroyed by fire 1020. Bp. Fulbert commenced the work anew. He was aided in his pious foundation by gifts from the kings of England, France, and Denmark, and a great body of people came over from Rouen to work at it, encamping in tents around while it was in progress. The works were continued by his successors at long intervals. In 1194 a second fire destroyed the building except S.W. tower and spire (1145). This edifice appears to have been destroyed by fire in 1196. The ch., as it exists, was not dedicated until 1260, and the greater portion of it may safely be referred to the 13th cent. The elegant crocketed N. spire raised in 1514, partly at the expense of Louis XII., by Jean Texier, an architect of the Beauce: it is 371 ft. high, and the upper part of beautifully light and delicately executed work, the lower 3 stages of the tower being of the old build. It is well worth ascending for the view, not only of the surrounding country, but of the Cathedral itself. The S.W. *Tower* and *Spire* are considered the finest of their period in France. The whole steeple is 339½ ft. high, without the cross. In the W. front, which is simple in its style, we have to remark the triple portal of pointed arches; that in the centre, called *Porte Royale*, supported and flanked by statues of royal saints. These are attenuated

figures with formal plaited drapery, characteristic of the Byzantine sculpture of the 12th cent. Above the door is the image of Christ in an oval, with the symbols of the 4 Evangelists, as designated in the vision of Ezekiel, around. Below these are the 14 Prophets, and in the arches above the 24 Elders of the Apocalypse, playing on musical instruments. The sculptures of the right-hand portal relate to the life of the Virgin, and in that of the l. is seen Christ, surrounded by angels, with the signs of the zodiac, and the agricultural labours of the twelve months of the year.

Far finer are the *two entrances on the N. and S. sides, consisting of triple projecting Gothic porticoes (something like the W. end of Peterborough cathedral), resting on piers, or bundles of pillars, with side openings between them. The stately statues which line the sides and vaults are in a superior style of art, and of a later date (13th cent.) than those of the W. front; the whole of these statues and porches were painted and gilded.

The interior is of such consistent vastness in all its parts, that its dimensions do not perhaps strike the spectator, at first sight, to their full extent; its length is 422 ft., and the height to the under side of the vault 106 ft. The style throughout nave and choir is the vigorous early Gothic. In the centre of the nave a maze or labyrinth, of intricate circles, called *La Lieue*, from its supposed length, is marked on the pavement in coloured stone: to follow it through its windings (967 ft. long), saying prayers at certain stations, was probably at one time a penitential exercise. The ch. possesses a perfect treasure of *Painted Glass*, more than 130 windows being completely filled, and a few only being destitute of this splendid ornamentation. They date, for the most part, from the 13th cent.; but the glass of the 3 old W. windows, one of which contains a Tree of Jesse, is of the 12th cent. The 3 rose-windows at the end of the nave and transepts are remarkable for their size, 30 or 40 ft. diameter, and their complicated tracery. The W. window is considered a chef-d'œuvre, and was sketched by Villars de Honnecourt, architect, in the 13th cent. The windows, both in nave and choir, illustrate subjects from the Bible, or legends of saints; in the lower compartments are seen representations of various trades — shoemakers, basket-makers, &c.—showing that their guilds or corporations were probably the donors.

Attached to the E. end is a chapel dedicated to St. Piat, of an oblong form of 2 storeys; it was founded in 1349, and is flanked by 2 round towers on the outside. The Sacristy is of the same period.

The choir has double aisles and a semicircular E. end; in the inside 8 marble bas-reliefs, of Scriptural subjects, are inserted, and behind the high altar is a huge marble sculpture, in the taste of the time of Louis XIII., not consistent with the character of the building. The outside of the screen, which separates the choir from its aisles, is ornamented with a series of very remarkable Gothic sculptures, each representing an event in the life of Christ or the Virgin Mary, in 45 compartments surrounded with elaborate tracery and tabernacle work; they were begun 1514, and continued down to the middle of the 17th cent., and are interesting as some of the final efforts of Gothic art. The execution has been compared to "point lace in stone; some of the sculptured threads are not thicker than the blade of a penknife."

"Four towers were started, but never finished, at the 4 angles of the transepts; 2 other towers remain unfinished at the junction of choir and apse; the central tower was never carried up. Thus there would have been 9 towers and spires, according to the original design."—*D. T.*

In the choir of Chartres cathedral Henri IV. was crowned, 1594; Reims, the usual scene of the royal coronation, being at the time in the hands of the Leaguers. The ceremony was performed by the bishop of the diocese, and, as the "Sainte Ampouelle" was not to be got at, a vial of holy oil, said to have been given by an angel to St. Martin of Tours, to cure a bruise, was brought in procession from the Abbey of Marmoutiers, and with this

the king was anointed. This cathedral narrowly escaped destruction by fire in 1836: fortunately the roof and interior of the towers were alone consumed.

"The origin and splendour of this cathedral are owing to the circumstance that it was the earliest and chief church in France dedicated to the Virgin, and thus the object of vast pilgrimages. The sacred image, supposed to date from the time when this place was the centre of the Druidic worship, as described by Cæsar, stood in the crypt. It was burned and the crypt sacked in 1793. The church still contains the relic of the *Sacra Camisia*, given by Charles le Chauve; and the celebrated black image of the 12th cent. in the N. aisle, after having been crowned with a bonnet rouge during the Revolution, is now as much an object of adoration as ever. A full account of every window will be found in the elaborate History of the Cathedral by the Abbé Bulteau, price 4½ francs."—*A. P. S.*

The roof of iron and copper, erected after the fire of 1836, is skilfully constructed and light.

The sacristan lives opposite the S. portal, and will show the crypt—in which there is an image also much venerated, and several chapels — the roof and tower (fee 1 fr.).

After exploring this noble edifice, the traveller will probably have little desire to look at inferior churches.

The *Ch. of St. Pierre* (M. H.), in the lower town, contiguous to a huge caserne, once a convent, and not far from the river, although very inferior to the cathedral, presents a remarkable E. end, filled with rich painted glass, end of 13th cent. The ch., which has aisles and 3 E. chapels, is of beginning of 13th cent., and remarkable for lightness of construction. The lantern character is increased by the triforium, running all round the choir, being open and glazed. The choir, though pointed, must be very early in the style, and seems to be of two dates; the circular piers, with early caps, which carry the arcade, have a Romanesque character, and have had small piers added to them at the time when the vault was built; the nave slightly different, and apparently later, yet retains the transition appearance in its columns. Its triforium is a row of trefoil-headed arches, supported on pilasters. In the chapel of the apse are 12 panels of the finest Limoges enamel by *Leonard Limousin*, brought from the Château of Anet, which belonged to Diane de Poitiers. Undoubted remains of polychromatic decoration may be seen on the walls and pillars.

St. André (circ. 1108), also near the river, and now filled with straw and hay, is interesting to the student of architecture as an early, plain, and severe example of the Pointed style. In the W. façade a circular-headed doorway is surmounted by a triplet of lancet windows, and these by a bold rose-window. The piers supporting the arches of the nave are cylindrical, marking the transition from Romanesque to Gothic. A curious crypt extends from the S. aisle down to the river, and below is level.

St. Aignan, a late ch., with a wooden wagon-ceiling, has some fine glass.

The very ancient *Ch. of St. Martin au Val* (11th and 12th cents.), now chapel of the Hospital of St. Brice, has a crypt containing remains of work of the 6th cent.

An *Obelisk* has been set up in the Marché aux Herbes, now called *Place Marceau*, to record that *Marceau* was a native of Chartres,—"Soldat à 16 ans, Général à 23; il mourut à 27." The original inscription mentioned his exploits in destroying the rebel Vendéans at Le Mans and Laval. A *statue* has been erected to him near the Porte des Epars. The revolutionary leader Pétion was also born here.

The *Corn Market* on Saturdays is exceedingly well regulated; business is transacted for ready money, and is usually over in ¾ hour. The measuring and selling of the grain, and receiving payment for it, are managed by a corporation of women, of long standing, remarkable for their integrity, and implicitly trusted by the owners. The town seems thriving, and the shops unusually good.

There are a public *Library* of 30,000 volumes and a *Museum* here.

Of the 7 gates of mediæval Chartres only that of St. Guillaume remains, a good specimen of the military architecture of the 14th cent.

Rly. N. to Dreux, S. to Orleans (Rte. 50); S.E. to Auneau-Ville, S.W. to Brou.

The journey from Chartres is continued through the plain of La Beauce, passing by

11 m. *Courville* Stat.

[4 m. S. of Courville is the Château de *Villebon* (M. H.), where Sully, the great minister of Henri IV., died. It is a square brick building, with towers at the angles, and not many years ago retained its ancient furniture, even to the bed on which the minister expired. In a hall on the 1st floor are views of the different châteaux possessed by the Sully family.]

Beyond Courville the rly. leaves La Beauce to enter the province of La Perche, passing by

5 m. *Pontgouin* Stat., near which is a Celtic monument called *La Pierre Platte*.

18 m. *Condé sur Huisne* Junct. Stat.

[*Rly.* W. 41 m. to Alençon in Rte. 29, through Mortagne in Rte. 35.] Bridge over the Huisne, and the Dépt. of Eure et Loir entered.

5 m. *Nogent-le-Rotrou* Stat. (*Inn:* H. du Dauphin, good), a town of 7006 Inhab., contains a ruined *Castle* of the Comtes de Perche, once the residence of Sully, and his *Monument* in the court near the chapel of the *Hôtel Dieu* founded by him; his arms are over the entrance. On it are the marble statues of himself and his wife by Boudin, 1642, and a long inscription at the back; it escaped the fury of the Revolution, but the grave itself was violated, and the ashes scattered to the winds. The word Nogent is an abbreviation of the Latin Novigentium; Rotrou was the name of a count of Perche. The river produces crawfish in great abundance. The railroad follows the Huisne from Nogent to Le Mans.

14 m. *La Ferté-Bernard* Stat. is a prettily situated town in the Dépt. de la Sarthe; 2719 Inhab. The *Parish Ch., N. D. des Marais*, is an interesting Gothic building, end of 16th cent., having a richly sculptured outer gallery, with the inscription "Salve Regina," and 3 chapels, from the vaulted roofs of which hang stone pendants. There is some good painted glass. The Gothic *Ch. of St. Hilaire* is of the 15th cent. One of the town gates has been converted into an *Hôtel de Ville*.

11 m. *Connerré* Junct. Stat. [Branch *Rly.* to N. 27 m. *Mamers* (*Inn:* H. de la Tête Noire), a town of 5400 Inhab. on the Dive. Also *Rly.* to S. 20 m. *St. Calais* (*Inn:* H. de St. Calais), a town of 3600 Inhab., on the Anille, with a *Ch.* (M. H.) of 14th cent., an ancient *abbaye*, and a ruined castle.] 1 m. from here, near the village of Duncan, is a large Dolmen or Druidic monument of rude stone slabs, like Kit's Coity House in Kent. (§ 4.)

7 m. *St. Mars-la-Bruyère* indicates by its name the desolate sandy heaths in the midst of which it is situated.

3 m. *Yvré Lévêque* Stat. Near here are some ruins of the *Abbaye of Epau*, founded in 1229 by Queen Berengaria, widow of Richard Cœur-de-Lion. Her tomb has been transferred to the Cathedral of Le Mans.

5 m. **Le Mans** Junct. Stat. (Buffet good) (*Inns:* H. de la Boule d'Or; H. de France repaired, new management), once capital of the province of Le Haut Maine, now chief town of the Dépt. de la Sarthe, is situated on the l. bank of the river Sarthe, a little above the junction of the Huisne, and contains 37,269 Inhab. It is a most picturesque and interesting place, from the marks of age it bears about it, its walls, its churches, and its active industry at present.

The **Cathedral* (M. H.), dedicated to St. Julien, well deserves attention, and stands nearly N. and S. It is 390 ft. long and in two styles; the *nave*, originally covered with a wooden roof, Romanesque, though with pointed arches, dates from the 12th cent., but its side aisles and walls, and the plain W. front, are not later than the 11th, and the arcade under the aisle windows is of the 10th and 11th. The marks of the successive alterations and additions

are plainly traceable; indeed, the outer masonry of the side walls, resembling Roman construction, is probably part of the original church, founded in the 8th or 9th cent. Above the W. round-headed door are portions of reticulated masonry, and an ancient bust of a king or bishop; on each side are figures supposed to represent the signs of the zodiac, Capricornus and Sagittarius. On the S. side is a richly-carved Romanesque *doorway* (12th cent.), a round arch preceded by a pointed porch, flanked by statues of kings and saints, resembling the W. door at Chartres, and with angels in the vault. It is unfortunately much mutilated.

The *Choir*, 104 ft. high, is a beautiful production, of the 13th cent., beginning 1220, the period of perfection in Pointed Gothic. It is surrounded by double aisles and 12 chapels, restored in 1858, when the Lady Chapel was scraped of its whitewash, and remains of paintings discovered. "This choir is quite the finest thing of its period in France, not excepting its rival Bourges, and the walk round the inner aisle unmatched. It covers a larger area than all the rest of the building. Among other excellences, the circular piers between the aisles give that character of simple and solid grandeur without which the rest might have looked too light and airy. The great beauty of the *Triforium* should be noticed. The windows are filled with painted *glass, little inferior to that of Chartres, except in preservation. In the transept is a fine rose-window, together with much stained glass of the 14th or 15th cent., a date rather more modern than that of the choir."—*D. T.*

In the S. transept is the monument of Berengaria of Sicily, queen of Richard Cœur-de-Lion, brought from the abbey of Epau, but much defaced. In the N. transept are the monuments of Charles of Anjou, 1474; and of Langey du Bellay, a soldier and a writer in the reigns of Francis I. and Henri II. The last is attributed to Germain Pilon; its arabesques and bas-reliefs are worthy of notice. See a modern monument to Bp. Bouvier, 1858.

An undressed block of silicious sandstone, standing on end, has been built into the outer wall of the cathedral; it is supposed to be of Druidic origin.

The Church of *Notre Dame du Pré*, in a suburb beyond the river, is of the middle of the 11th cent., and has, under the ancient open wooden roof of the nave, a vault of the 14th cent. like that in the nave of the cathedral. The floor of the choir and apse is raised, and under it is a pretty chapel of 3 aisles.

Notre Dame de la Couture (de culturâ Dei) has a nave of 12th cent., without aisles as in churches of Angers and in the South. The vaulting is domical; has a very old choir, supposed to have been begun about 990; both arches and vaulting are round and of rude construction; under the choir is a chapel as in Notre Dame du Pré. It has a very elegant portal, adorned with sculptures of the Last Judgment.

The conventual buildings to which it was originally attached are now the *Préfecture*, but contain besides the *Library* (with 50,000 vols. and some interesting MSS.), and a *Museum*, devoted to natural history, to Roman antiquities found in the neighbourhood, and to paintings of an inferior order, but possessing one curiosity at least, viz. a full-length portrait of Geoffrey Plantagenet, Count of Anjou and Maine, father of Henry II., enamelled on copper, 25 in. by 13, 12th cent., a very early specimen of that class of art: it was originally attached to his tomb in the cathedral, destroyed 1799; *obs.* also an interior by Rokes (or Zorg) 1621-82, a pupil of D. Teniers. Amongst the series of *medallions* are some very fine specimens, *obs.* a bronze piece presented by the city of Lyons to Louis XII., 1499, a gold ditto with bust of Henry II., &c. There are also some good *arras* and mediæval *metal work*.

St. Pierre is supposed to be the oldest church here, that is to say, the lower part of its walls.

The *Séminaire*, originally the Abbaye de St. Vincent, has a noble façade and a fine staircase. There is a handsome theatre behind the Promenade des Jacobins, on the site of a suppressed Dominican convent.

Many specimens of mediæval domestic

architecture remained here until lately, but are fast disappearing, and the town is becoming modern and commonplace. There are still some old houses in Rue de l'Hôpiteau; in the narrow *Grande Rue*, Nos. 7, 9, 18, 21, and 11, deserve attention; the last is known as the house of Queen Berengaria, but appears not to be older than the 15th century. That called the *Grabatais*, near la Place du Château, is an interesting specimen of domestic architecture: it formed a retreat for the sick canons of the cathedral.

The house of Scarron, husband of Mad. de Maintenon, who was an honorary canon, is pointed out near the cathedral.

The Romans settled here early: in the 4th cent. the town was called Cenomanum. Excepting the foundations of the *town walls* and *towers*, the vestiges of the Roman period at Le Mans are not considerable: the chief are the remains of 3 subterranean aqueducts, by which the city was supplied with water from a distance. A portion of them may be seen in a cellar of the Rue Gourdaine.

Le Mans was the birthplace of Henry (II.) (1133), the first of the Plantagenet kings of England—a name derived from the sprig of broom (*genêt*), the abundant production of his native province, which his father, Geoffry, used to wear in his cap; also of Germain Pilon, the sculptor of the Renaissance.

A large trade is carried on here in clover-seed, which is sent in large quantities to England. Le Mans is also famed for poultry; its poulardes and capons supply the markets of Paris. Here are linen-mills and tanneries.

Le Mans witnessed the final dispersion of the Vendéan army in 1793. Worn out by the fatigues of a six months' campaign, they were here assaulted by the Republican forces under Marceau. Very obstinate was the resistance made by the Royalists in the streets and great square of the town before they were finally expelled, with their leader, Larochejacquelin, who was wounded. Then ensued a fearful carnage, not only of the Vendéan soldiery, but of their wives and children, who accompanied them. By the cannonades of grape and platoons of musketry, under the orders of the commissioners of the Convention, upwards of 10,000 persons were slaughtered on that occasion.

On the 10th Jan., 1871, the French, numbering nearly 100,000 men under Chanzy, here endeavoured to make a stand, but after 2 days' severe fighting the Germans, under Prince Frederick Charles, entered Le Mans, which became the prince's headquarters, and the French Armée de la Loire, disorganized and nearly destroyed, abandoned any further attempt to relieve Paris.

Railways to Tours (Rte. 30), to Alençon (Rte. 35), Argentan, Mézidon, and Caen (Rte. 25), to Laval, Rennes, and W. Brittany (see below), to Angers and Nantes (Rte. 46).

The Rly. to Rennes crosses the Sarthe by a viaduct leaving the Rly. to Caen on the rt., and enters the dépt. de la Mayenne

37 m. *Evron* Stat. (*Inn:* H. de l'Ecu) a town of 5000 Inhab. The *Ch.* (M.H.), dating from the 12th cent., has an inclined steeple. [8 m. N.W. are the Roman remains at *Jublains*, described in Rte. 35A.]

9 m. **Laval** Junct. Stat. (Buffet) (*Inns:* H. de France, good; H. de l'Ouest), a curious ancient town, now a bishop's see, chef lieu of the Dépt. de la Mayenne, on the river Mayenne, with 27,189 Inhab. The oldest part consists of timber houses spoiled by whitewash, each storey projecting beyond that below it; but a new quarter has risen on the W., where the streets are wide and regular. On the rt. bank of the Mayenne, close to the old bridge, the *Castle* of the seigneurs De la Trémouille rises from a basement of rock, on which its lofty wall is raised, flanked at one end by a machicolated round tower. It was built in the 12th cent., and its *Chapel* on round arches is perhaps of that date, but there are many later additions, and the jambs of some of the windows facing the inner court retain ornaments in the style of the Renaissance (15th or 16th cent.). It is now a *prison*.

The *Cathedral* of the Trinity (M.H.) is a cruciform edifice, the choir alone having aisles: the nave a fine work of the same type as the churches of Angers and Poitiers. The choir and transepts are Romanesque of the 12th cent. The aisles and side chapels, additions of the 15th and 16th cents., in the Flamboyant style. The E. end is square; the porch is a wretched addition of recent times. Under the ch. are very extensive substructions and crypts, constructed in consequence of the slope of the ground so as to form a platform or foundation for the building.

St. Vénérand, a ch. of the 15th or 16th cent., has some painted glass.

The *Church* (M.H.) in the village of Avesnières, adjoining the town, built 1040, deserves the notice of the architect. It has generally all the characteristics of early Romanesque, yet the principal arches are Pointed, and are perhaps the earliest examples in this part of France. Its choir is surrounded by 5 chapels, and 2 others open into the transepts. Above the cross rises an elegant spire of late Flamboyant. This ch. contains a miracle-working image of the Virgin.

The *Ch. de Price* (? early 11th cent.), about 2 m. distant on the rt. bank of the Mayenne, deserves a visit. *Obs:* the intervening bands of tiles between the small square stones—the founders' tombs—the signs of the zodiac above the arch of the apse (13th cent.)—the 5 sepulchral slabs forming steps to descend to the church.

Laval is essentially a manufacturing town, occupied in the production of linen and cotton tissues and of thread made from flax. A market for the sale of these manufactures is held every week in the *Halle aux Toiles.*

Laval was the centre of the Royalist insurrection in 1792, called *La Chouannerie*, either from 4 brothers named Chouan, its first leaders, of the village St. Ouen des Toits, or from the cry of the owl, imitated by the salt-smugglers of this district as a signal to their confederates, and afterwards adopted during the struggle, by the peasant guerillas, to announce the enemy's approach.

One of the most glorious victories of the Vendéans was gained in Oct. 1793, a little to the S. of the town. Defeated in several previous combats, and driven across the Loire, with a large Republican army in pursuit, their enemies believed the insurrection extinguished. Barrère announced to the Convention in Paris: "La Vendée was no more, the brigands are exterminated, and that a profound solitude reigned in the Bocage, covered with cinders and watered with tears;" —but at the very time that these words were being uttered, Henri de Larochejacquelin had carried Laval at the point of the bayonet; then, turning round on his pursuers, he exhorted his brave bands to efface the memory of their former defeats, and to fight for the preservation of their wives and children who accompanied them, now far from their homes. Lescure insisted on being carried through the ranks on his death-litter, mortally wounded as he was, to encourage the Royalists by his presence, and to share their peril and toil. The Vendéans, obeying the appeal, rushed upon the enemy in close column, entirely routed them, and pursued them beyond Château Gontier, with a loss to the Republicans of 12,000 men, among whom was the redoubted garrison of Mayenne, and of 19 cannon. The conflict began at les Croix de Bataille, 2 m. S. of Laval. So precipitate and complete was the rout, that the remains of the Republican army, reduced to 12,000 men, were not collected and reorganised until 12 days had elapsed, and not before they had left the town of Angers in their rear.

Rly. to Flers (see Rte. 35A).

The line to Rennes proceeds W. through

14 m. *St. Pierre la Cour* Stat. Enter Brittany = Dépt. d'Ille et Vilaine. There are some large coal-pits near this.

9 m. **Vitré** Junct. Stat. (Pop. 8937) (*Inns:* H. des Voyageurs, clean and good; H. de Sévigné, dirty and decayed) is an interesting remnant of mediæval times, with gabled and projecting

storeyed old houses, irregular streets, and retaining the greater portion of its grand feudal fortifications, high and thick *walls*, flanked by machicolated towers, and with deep ditches. They appear not later in date than the 15th cent. On one side of them, but detached by a ditch, stands a venerable and picturesque *Castle* of the Seigneurs de la Tremouille, now converted into a prison and falling to decay. In the court is an elegantly ornamented structure, half Gothic, half Italian, supposed to have been a pulpit. At the time of its construction the lords of the castle were adherents of the Reformed faith, and the inscription, which may still be read around the console, "post tenebras spero lucem," probably alludes to the persecutions they suffered.

The *Ch. of Notre Dame* is in a style indicating the decline of Gothic art; on the outside is a stone pulpit and canopy of the 15th cent., and within one of the chapels hangs a frame containing 32 small enamels, probably from Limoges.

The peasants of this part of Brittany wear, during winter, a dress of goat-skins with the hair turned outwards, which gives them a somewhat savage aspect, and reminds one of Robinson Crusoe.

Branch Rly. N. 50 m. to Pontorson and Mont St. Michel (Rte. 27), passing through *Fougères* (described in Rte. 31).

[About 3 m. S.E. of Vitré is the *Château des Rochers*, a fine old turreted mansion, on a plateau among woods, with a large formal garden, long the residence of Madame de Sévigné; her bedroom and the cabinet where she wrote many of her charming letters are pointed out; there is a good portrait of her by *Mignard*, but the furniture, &c., has been altered, and there is a difficulty in obtaining admittance.]

The Vilaine river, after which the department is named, rises near Vitré; the rly. runs parallel to it as far as Rennes, crossing it at

11 m. *Châteaubourg* Stat.

2 m. beyond this the road passes close to a large slate-quarry excavated to a depth of more than 100 ft.

13 m. **Rennes** Junct. Stat. (Buffet) (*Inns*: H. Julien, very good; H. de France, comfortable and moderate.) This town, once capital of Brittany, now chief town of the Dépt. d'Ille et Vilaine, is situated at the confluence of these two streams, and contains 45,485 Inhab. Here are few antiquities, except in the outer faubourgs; the town has an entirely modern aspect, arising from a fire which in 1720 reduced nearly the whole to ashes. The public buildings, of a date subsequent to this catastrophe, display for the most part the bad taste of the 18th cent.

The modern portion of the town has long streets and numerous open spaces or *squares*, with lofty houses like those of Paris: a great commercial activity is everywhere evident. Considerable improvements have taken place; many narrow streets have been removed, and a bridge has been thrown over the Vilaine.

The stately *Palais de Justice*, in the handsome Place du Palais, the parliament-house of the States of Brittany, is the most remarkable building in Rennes. It contains one fine large hall, *La Salle des Pas Perdus*, and several apartments rich in gilded ceilings and stucco ornaments, Cupids bearing festoons, &c., with roofs and panels painted by *Jouvenet* and *Coypel*. It dates from 1618. It has been restored at an expense of 40,000*l*.

The interior of the *modern Cathedral* "is a very spacious, lofty, and imposing *Hall* of Grecian architecture; the principal aisle having a richly decorated vaulted roof, supported by massive and well-proportioned fluted Corinthian columns. On the whole the effect is striking, but not at all ecclesiastical." The ch. of *St. Germain* is the oldest in the city. *St. Melaine* retains a Romanesque porch supported on engaged pillars with curiously carved capitals, probably of the 12th cent.

There is a very handsome modern *Theatre*, situated in a square, with covered arcades around, lined with shops.

In the *Lycée* or *Palais de l'Université* is a collection of pictures. As a curiosity may be cited a Judgment of Solomon

painted by *King René of Anjou*, but much injured, faded and dingy in hue. In the same buildings a collection of mediæval and modern sculptures, of antiquities, and of geology.

The Public *Library*, in the Hôtel de Ville, contains 45,000 volumes, and some rare MSS., among them a charter of Henry de Trastamare, granting certain lands in Spain to the Connétable Duguesclin.

The chief attractions of Rennes, however, are its *Public Walks*, especially that called *le Thabor*, planted with fine trees, and commanding a pleasing view over the town, and valley of the Vilaine. A poor statue of Duguesclin has been set up in it. The *Jardin des Plantes*. The other walks are *le Mail*, extending to the junction of the Ille and Vilaine, *la Motte*, and *le Champ de Mars*. On market-day the scene in the market-place is picturesque. Through the *Porte Mordelaise*, which formerly stood opposite the cathedral, the ancient Dukes of Brittany made their solemn entry into Rennes on their accession; before passing they swore to preserve the Catholic faith and the Church of Brittany, to govern wisely, and to execute justice; they were then conducted into the ch., where, after 2 days spent in prayer, they were crowned with the golden circlet, and girt with the ducal sword.

The manufactures of Rennes are sail-cloth, which it supplies to the French navy, and some table-linen. The salted butter is excellent, especially that of Prévalaye, large quantities of which are sent to other parts of France.

At Essé a stupendous Dolmen, or Allée couverte, can be visited in a day.

The *Roche des Fées* can be most conveniently visited from Rennes.

Railways—to Paris by Chartres; to Brest by St. Brieuc, Guingamp, and Morlaix; to Nantes, Vannes, Lorient, Quimper, and Brest, by Redon; to St. Malo by Dol. The station is S. of the town, the broad *Avenue de la Gare* leading to the Pont St. Georges over the Vilaine and the Place du Palais.

ROUTE 35.

PARIS TO GRANVILLE, BY DREUX, LAIGLE, ARGENTAN, AND VIRE—RAIL.

	Kil.	Miles.
Paris to Versailles	18	11
Houdan	63	39
Dreux	82	51
Verneuil	118	73
Laigle	141	88
Surdon Junct.	182	114
Argentan	197	123
Flers	243	152
Vire	271	169
Granville	328	205

Three trains daily, in 10 hrs.

For the rly. as far as

15 m. *St. Cyr* Junct. Stat. see Rte. 34. The line now runs parallel to the old post-road, by

10 m. *Plaisir-Grignon* Stat., near which there is a celebrated model farm;

7 m. *Montfort l'Amaury* Stat., near which a ruined castle;

11 m. *Houdan* Stat. (*Inns:* H. l'Ecu; H. le Cygne), Pop. 2051. The Gothic *Ch.* (M.H.) is handsome, but unfinished; of the ancient fortifications and gates of the town nothing remains but the massive *Donjon* built by Count Amaury III. (1105-37).

The river Eure is crossed 3 m. before reaching

12 m. **Dreux** Junct. Stat., omnibus from rly. (*Inn:* H. du Paradis, clean and comfortable), a town of 7237 Inhab., on the Blaise, a tributary of the Eure. It was on the plain between the two rivers that the battle, known as la Journée de Dreux, one of the bloodiest in the French religious wars, was fought between the Roman Catholics, under the Duc de Guise, who was victorious, and the Huguenots, under the Prince de Condé, who was made prisoner, 1562.

The hill which rises above the town is crowned by the ruins of the *Castle* of the Comtes de Dreux, which was captured with the town from the Duc de Guise by Henri IV.; the remains of the old *Donjon* or keep tower of brick,

of a handsome Norman gateway, and of a Gothic Chapel, built 1142, still exist. The space within the walls is planted and converted into a garden, in the midst of which rises a modern *Chapel*, in the form of a Greek temple, surmounted by a cupola, erected by the late King Louis Philippe, when Duc d'Orléans, to replace one destroyed at the Revolution, which was the burial-place of his maternal ancestors. Beneath it are interred the last Duchesse de Penthièvre; the remains of the Princesse de Lamballe, who was massacred at the Revolution; the Princesse Marie of Würtemberg, the accomplished daughter of the King; the Duke of Orleans; and the mother of Louis Philippe. That prepared by the king for himself and his virtuous queen during their lifetime remained unoccupied down to 1876, when the bodies of the King and Queen, Duchess d'Orleans, Princes de Condé, &c., were removed from Weybridge and deposited here in the centre of the Chapel of the Virgin. Also the Duchess of Bourbon-Condé, the mother of the Duc d'Enghien; and Mademoiselle de Montpensier, to whom there is a statue by *Pradier*. Louis Philippe adorned the edifice with the best productions of modern French schools. The entrances to the Church are Gothic: the dome is painted in fresco with the 12 Apostles. The painted glass and the sculptures on some of the tombs are good, the finest of all being a statue of the Angel of the Resignation in a bending attitude, the chef-d'œuvre of the late King's daughter, the Princess Marie d'Orléans —finer even than her well-known Jeanne d'Arc. The *Chapel of the Virgin* is enriched with carving, with pendants from the roof, and with painted windows of modern glass, both here and in the choir, representing Saints and religious subjects, executed at Sèvres from the designs of *Ingres*. That King built a long low range of apartments for the residence of himself and his family, but they have been removed. Around the hill are carried agreeable walks. Its top is surmounted by a tower, with a very extensive view.

The Gothic parish *Ch. of St. Pierre* (M. H.), its lower portions in the style of the 13th cent., the upper part and tower in that of the 15th, contains the graves of Rotrou, a dramatist of the 13th cent., and of Philidor the great chess-player, both natives of Dreux.

The *Hôtel de Ville* (M. H.), part Gothic, part in the revival style of the 16th cent., now turned into a museum, contains a curious chimney-piece, and a bell, cast in the reign of Charles IX., bearing a representation, in relief, of the procession of the Flambards.

There are numerous manufactures of coarse cloths, serges, &c., in the arrondissement of Dreux.

[*Rly.* S. to Chartres and Orleans, and N. 23 m. to Bueil Junct. Stat., passing 11 m. N.E. of Dreux, on the l. bank of the Eure, the scanty remains of the *Château d'Anet*. See Rte. 50.]

The *Ch. of St. Remé*, on the rly. beyond Dreux, is a fine example of the Flamboyant style.

On the Avre, a tributary of the Eure, are several manufactories; the paper-mills of the eminent publisher Didot, 2 or 3 cotton-mills belonging to Mr. Waddington; and the woollen-yarn mill of Mr. Vulliamy—the 2 last Englishmen, who employ a great number of persons. The mechanical power used is water.

9 m. *Nonancourt* Stat.

The site of the house in the market-place, near the church, in which Henri IV. slept the night before the battle of Ivry, is pointed out.

13 m. **Verneuil** Stat. (*Inn:* H. Poste et Cheval Blanc). This interesting old town, 4259 Inhab., contains several remarkable specimens of Gothic architecture—the finest being the *Tour de la Madeleine*, a magnificent work in the most gorgeous style of the 15th cent., surmounted by a low lantern in 2 stages. Verneuil was once a place of strength: —under its *walls*, which partly remain, a fine specimen of fortification of the 12th cent., was fought a bloody battle, August 17, 1424, between the French and English, which, after two days of hard and uncertain contest, terminated in favour of the Regent Duke of Bedford, and was the last great victory

obtained by him. The bravest leaders and most efficient troops who fought on the side of the French were the Scotch. Their commanders—the Earl of Douglas, who had been created Duke of Touraine; his son, the Earl of Buchan—and many other knights were slain. The English army was inferior in numbers to the enemy, yet it left 1600 dead on the field, while on the side of the French there fell 4000, including Scotch and Italian allies. As usual, the English archers contributed mainly to the victory. Attached to the portion of the fortifications not yet removed is a tall tower, 60 ft. high, on the margin of the Avre, called *la Tour Grise*.

[*Rly.* in progress N. to Evreux in Rte. 25.]

[*Omnibus* by a good post-road from Verneuil S.W. to

22 m. *Mortagne* Stat. (*Inn:* H. du Grand Cerf), an old town (4830 Inhab.) which claimed to be capital of la Perche. It is situated in a commanding position on a hill, surmounted by the high road in a series of zigzags, in order to reach the principal square. It was a place of strength, often besieged, and suffered much from the horrors of war. During the contests of the League it was taken and pillaged by the two parties 22 times in 3½ years. Parts of its ramparts remain, and a fragment of its castle, a vaulted chamber, now called Portail St. Denis. Its only supply of water is obtained by means of a steam-engine pump, from springs at the bottom of the hill. The *Church* is remarkable for the pendants in the roof of its nave, its old painted glass, and wood carvings.

Canvas for pictures is made at Mortagne, besides coarse linens and some porcelain.

Rly. W. 23 m. to Alençon in Rte. 29, E. 18 m. to Condé, for Chartres or Le Mans in Rte. 34.

7 m. N. of Mortagne, at Soligny, is the convent of *La Trappe*, founded in the 12th cent., owing its celebrity to the severe rule of the order enforced, 1666, by the Abbé La Rancé, who is said to have always lived strictly and ascetically. The well-known story of his conversion is a pure fable. He was frequently visited here by James II. The convent was suppressed 1790, by a decree of the Assemblée Nationale, and its church destroyed with the tomb of La Rancé, but the monks were restored in 1814 by the exertions of M. Lestrange. They are interdicted from all intellectual labour, and only allowed to work in the fields.

8 m. S. of Mortagne is the ancient town and well-preserved *Castle of Bellême*, once capital of La Perche.]

On leaving Verneuil the rly. crosses successively the valleys of the Bourthe and Rille.

14 m. *Laigle* Junct. Stat. (Buffet) (*Inn:* H. l'Aigle d'Or), a town of 5811 Inhab., on the Rille; very industrious, being the centre of the manufacture of pins, needles, gloves, &c. It has the remains of a *Castle* of the 17th cent., and 2 *Churches;* in that of *St. Jean* there is some good painted glass.

[Rly. on rt. N.E. 25 m. to Conches in Rte. 25.]

25 m. *Surdon* Junct. Stat. (Rte. 29).

15m. *Argentan* Junct. Stat. (Rte. 29).

20 m. *Briouze* Junct. Stat.

[Rly. 9 m. S. to *La Ferté Macé*, omnibus to établissement des Bains at *Bagnolles de l'Orne*.]

3 m. *Flers* Junct. Stat. (Buffet) (*Inn:* H. de l'Ouest). This industrious town of 10,000 Inhab.—on the Noireau—and the neighbourhood are devoted to manufactures: spinning, weaving, dyeing, and bleaching of cotton; linens, silks, &c.

[*Branch Rly.* N. to Caen, S. to *Domfront* and *Mayenne* (see Rte. 35A).]

7 m. *Monsecret* Stat. Omnibus to 5 m. S.W. *Tinchebrai*, where Robert of Normandy was defeated by his younger brother Henry I., 1106. This victory secured a throne to the one prince and a prison for life to the other.

10 m. **Vire** Stat. (*Inns:* H. St. Pierre, clean and comfortable; fine view; H. Cheval Blanc, fair), a picturesque antique town (Pop. 7643), the capital of the Bocage and Lower Normandy, situated on a lofty eminence, round which the Vire sweeps between rocks and woods.

A Norm. *Castle*, called the *Château de Montgomery*, occupies the extreme point of the promontory, inaccessible on 3 sides, owing to the precipices which surround it; and on the 4th originally separated from the town by a deep ditch. It is now reduced to the fragment of the tall *keep*, a construction of the 11th cent., having been dismantled 1630, by order of Richelieu, but its ruins are preserved, and surrounded by a sort of dusty pleasure-ground or public promenade. It commands a view of the country around, streaked with long lines of "tenters" upon which cloth is hung, and especially of the 2 valleys beneath it, called, *par excellence*, *Les Vaux de Vire*, whence comes the word Vaudeville, originally applied to the merry and humorous drinking songs composed among these valleys by one Oliver Basselin. He was a native of Vire, and owner of a fulling-*mill*, which still remains at no great distance from the town. He flourished in the 15th cent., and is reported to have been present at the battle of Formigny. His chansons, chiefly in praise of cyder and his native province, soon became so popular over France, that their name was transferred to those truly national dramas peculiar to the French stage, in which the plot or story is carried through chiefly by songs. They were much improved in the 16th cent. by Jean le Houx.

In the narrow and steep streets of Vire may be found many specimens of ancient domestic architecture, well adapted for the artist's sketch-book. In the centre of the town the Rue du Calvados passes under a *clocktower* 100 ft., rising over a Gothic gateway of the 13th cent. The *Ch. of Notre Dame* is a fine building; but the *walks* in and about it are the chief boast of Vire. Terraced paths are carried up the hill-side amidst thickets and plantations, commanding at intervals very pleasing views. Vire is an industrious town, having fabrics of linens, woollens, and tammies.

The valleys in the neighbourhood, generally shut in by craggy heights and copse-covered slopes, abound in mills of paper and *cloth*, in which the clothing for the French army is made. This gives employment to half the inhabitants of Vire, "who are stained as blue as the ancient Britons." The "Fête des Drapiers" is celebrated here on the 10th August.

Vire has a gastronomic celebrity for chitterlings (andouillettes) and pastry.

The line continues through a pretty country to

8 m. *St. Sever* Stat. The parish *Ch.* contains some fine old glass of the 13th. cent., and formed part of the Benedictine abbey existing here in the 17th cent.

8 m. *Villedieu les Poêles* Stat., so called from the number of coppersmiths or braziers settled in the neighbourhood. Omnibus twice daily to S. 14 m. *Avranches* (Rte. 27), through a beautiful country, "rich swelling hills, green meadows, and vast seas of waving wood. The first view of Avranches about 5 m. before you get there, with the rich foreground, the spire of the town crowning the height, and the sea beyond, with Mont St. Michel rising out of it, is truly striking."

18. m. GRANVILLE TERMINUS. Rte. 27.

ROUTE 35A.

CAEN TO LAVAL—RAIL.

	Kil.	Miles.
Caen to Flers.	60	37
Mayenne	121	75
Laval	151	94

Time, 5 to 7 hrs.; *trains*, 3 daily.

This line opens the most direct communication between Normandy and Western Brittany. Following the valley of the Orne to

27 m. *Berjou Pont d'Ouilly* Junct. Stat. [Branch Rly. E. to Coulibœuf, passing *Falaise*. See Rte. 29.]

14 m. *Flers* Junct. Stat. [Rly. E. to Paris, W. to Granville, see Rte. 35.]

13 m. **Domfront** Stat. (*Inn*: H. Trouillard; H. du Commerce, small, but commands fine view), a picturesque

fortified town, pop. 4500, of the middle ages, perched on a conical height above the Varenne stream. Its *Castle*, rising on the very edge of a precipice 200 ft. high, completes the walled circuit, with large flanking towers clad with ivy. It was taken from Maine by William the Conqueror. Our Henry II. resided in this castle, and here received the Nuncio of the Pope, sent to reconcile him with Becket. In 1574 it was besieged by the armies of the League under Marshal Matignon, and defended by the Huguenot leader Gabriel de Montgomery, but was taken after a most gallant defence, and the commander carried prisoner to Paris, where, contrary to the terms of his capitulation, he was executed a month afterwards. At the foot of the rock stands the old ch. of *N. Dame sur l'Eau*, of pure Norm. work, containing the monument of Guill. de Bellesme, who founded both it and the castle, in the early part of the 12th cent.

27 m. *Mayenne* Stat. (*Inns:* H. Belle Etoile; H. Tête Noire), a town of 10,890 Inhab., situated ⅔ on the rt. bank and ⅓ on the l. of the Mayenne. Its manufactures of calicoes, linen cloth, and tickens employ 8000 persons in and around the town. The *Castle*, now in ruins, is a picturesque object, on the rt. bank of the river, near the bridge. It belonged to the seigneurs de Mayenne, and was taken after a 3 months' siege, by the English, under the Earl of Salisbury, 1424. The great *Church* has a large modern choir. Many of the streets are very narrow, and so steep as to require several oxen to draw a cart up them.

7 m. S.E. of Mayenne, on the road to Evron, is *Jublains*, a poor village of 1900 Inhab., on the site of the ancient city of the Diablintes, which was rebuilt and fortified by the Romans under the name of Noviodunum. The village ch. stands on part of the ancient baths. The fields and gardens are traversed by foundations of walls; and at the N. extremity of the village, near a wooded hillock, surrounded by twelve lime-trees, are the vestiges of a circular temple (? of Fortune). The Theatre can also be traced. The most curious portion of the remains is the *castellum* or fortress, situated to the S.W. of the ancient town. It is a square enclosure, the massive walls consisting of rough-hewn stones, with courses of tiles, and resting on huge blocks of granite. From the coins which have been dug up, it is supposed that the town was founded in the days of Nerva and destroyed in the reign of Aurelian.

20 m. *Laval* Junct. Stat. (Rte. 34.)

ROUTE 36.

RENNES TO BREST—RAIL.

Rennes to	Kil.	Miles.
Montfort-sur-Meu	22	14
Caulnes—Dinan	46	28
Lamballe	81	50
St. Brieuc	101	63
Guingamp	131	81
Morlaix	189	117
Landerneau	230	142
Brest	249	155

3 trains daily in 8 hrs.

Rennes is described in Rte. 34.

14 m. *Montfort-sur-Meu* Stat. (*Inns:* H. Cheval Blanc), a town of 2290 Inhab. at the confluence of the Meu and the Garun.

[Diligence twice daily to S.W. 29 m.

Ploërmel (*Inns:* H. Fligé; H. du Commerce; H. de France: none very good), a town of 5697 Inhab.

In the *Ch. of St. Armel* (M. H.), a low and heavy structure of the 12th cent., are the monumental effigies in armour of Dukes John II. (1305) and III. (1341) of Britanny. They were brought from the church of the Carmelites, founded by John II., who had fought in Syria against the Infidels, and had visited Mount Carmel; the sculpture is good, and they are tolerably perfect; the church was destroyed at the Revolution. These statutes are interesting examples of the costume and armour of the time. There is some good 16th-cent. painted glass in the church.]

[11 m. N. of Montfort-sur-Meu is *Becherel*, a village of 790 Inhab., on one of the most elevated parts of Brittany. There are some ruins of

the *Castle*, rebuilt after its destructi on in 1183. A part of the *Ch. of Ste. Marie* is Romanesque, and was founded in 1164. The rest was rebuilt in 1624.]

15 m. *Caulnes-Dinan* Stat., near the Canal d'Ille et Rance. [Good road of 14 m. from here to *Dinan*, with well-appointed diligences (Rte. 41).]

5 m. *Broons* Stat. is remarkable only as the birthplace of Bertrand Dugueslin, the great captain of France in the 15th cent. He was the eldest child of Robert Dugueslin, and remarkably ill-favoured to look upon. He first saw the light in the castle of La Motte Broons, about 1½ m. out of the town, of which no vestiges remain, but the place where it stood is marked by an avenue of trees, and a *Monument*, erected at the cost of the province.

7 m. *Plénée Jugon* Stat. [3 m. distant is

Jugon, a pretty Swiss-looking village on the river Arguenon. (*Inn:* H. de l'Ecu; fair; a good resting-place for pedestrians.) There are small lakes abounding with carp and pike in the vicinity; it was once a stronghold belonging to the Dukes of Penthièvre.]

10 m. *Lamballe* Stat. (4151 Inhab.) (*Inns:* H. de France, moderate, and civil people) was the chief place of the Comté of Penthièvre; the castle of the counts was reduced and dismantled by Card. Richelieu, 1626, to punish a rebellious seigneur. The *Ch. of Notre Dame* (M. H.), on the top of the hill whose slope is occupied by the town, was originally the castle chapel, and is a very fine Gothic building. Thick cylindrical piers surmounted by capitals in bands support the lancet arches of the nave, which is of early 13th cent., whilst the choir, belonging to the 14th cent., rests on clustered pillars, the arches being surmounted by a double triforium gallery. It has a wooden roof and square E. end. In a side aisle is some good carved woodwork, with Decorated and Flamboyant tracery, perhaps the remains of a rood-loft. Part of the ch. was built 1545. It has been badly restored, 1857. Lamballe possesses a Government Haras.

Rly. in progress; in mean time *omnibus* to 15 m. *Dinan.* See Rte. 41.

[10 m. S.W. of Lamballe is *Moncontour*, a very picturesque town of 1387 Inhab., with ruins of walls and castle; there is some painted glass in the parish *Ch.* (M. H.); the *Pardon* de St. Mathurin held here is much frequented by pilgrims, who dance on the lawn of La Grange the *Ronde*, and other Breton dances.]

12 m. **St. Brieuc** Junct. Stat. (Buffet) (*Inns:* H. Croix Blanche, clean and good; H. L'Univers, excellent, quiet—better situation). There is little worth notice in this town of 15,812 Inhab.; it is situated on the Gouet, and has a port called Légué, 2 m. lower down the stream, provided with a long quai, accessible for vessels of 400 or 500 tons. On the top of a hilly promontory, commanding the embouchure of the river, stands the ruined *Tour de Cesson*, built 1395 to defend its entrance, but blown up 1598, after the war of the League, by order of Henri IV. Such, however, was the thickness of the wall, and the coherence of the mortar, that one-half of the cylinder remains standing, braving the tempests, while the other lies shattered into a few large masses at its base. There is a pretty walk from St. Brieuc to Légué, through a narrow ravine, traversed by a small tributary of the Gouet. St. Brieuc was taken by the Chouans in the Vendéan war, 1799.

An interesting antiquarian and architectural excursion to Lanleff, Paimpol, &c., may be made from here (Rte. 38).

[Branch Rlys. to Auray, by Pontivy. See Rte. 37.]

11 m. *Châtelaudren* Stat. (*Inn:* H. de l'Ecu, fair), a small town on the Leff.

8 m. **Guingamp** Stat. (*Inn:* H. de France, dear and dirty; H. de l'Ouest), a very picturesque town of 6977 Inhab., situated in the vale of the winding Trieux, which abounds in pleasing scenery. Many of the old timber and stone houses remain, with quaint dormers and corbelled angle-turrets. It formed part of the possessions of the Ducs de Penthièvre, and

descended from them to King Louis-Philippe. The site of their castle is occupied by a grove of trees, and serves as a public promenade. The *Church* of *Notre Dame de Bon Secours*, surmounting the other buildings, part Gothic, part in the style of the revival, has some peculiarities, such as grotesque heads projecting from the shafts of its piers. The *Fontaine de la Pompe*, in the middle of the *Place* of the same name, is an elegant work of Italian artists, reconstructed in 1743 in imitation of the earlier Renaissance one existing here in 1588.

The *Chapel of Notre Dame de Grâces*, 1½ m. W. of the town, is well deserving a visit, although its rich decorations in sculptured tracery and figures have been much mutilated. "Its elegant spire, finely proportioned pillars, and light arches, are still worthy of admiration; and much of the grotesque carving which formed the cornices of the nave and aisles may still be seen." —*Trollope.* It was begun 1506; in 1605 the remains of Charles of Blois were brought hither. The chapel of the abbey of *Ste. Croix*, on the banks of the Trieux, founded in 1130, is now a stable.

Good roads to Paimpol (20 m.) and Tréguier (22 m.), passing Pontrieux (Rte. 38), and to Lannion.

16 m. *Plouaret* Stat. [Omnibus to *Lannion*, 10 m., see Rte. 38, passing 8 m. *Ploubezre*, a town of 3,400 Inhab., with a *Ch.* of 1577 with fine tower. 2 m. to the E. is the *Chapel of Kerfons*, erected in 1559, with remains of fine glass, and a good rood-loft.]

6 m. *Plounerin* Stat.

The Dépt. of Finistère, embracing the larger portion of la Basse Bretagne, the ancient Armorica, is entered before reaching

9 m. *Plouigneau* Stat.

A grand *Viaduct* of two tiers of arches, 200 ft. high, carries the railroad across the valley before reaching

6 m. **Morlaix** Stat. (*Inns:* H. de l'Europe, good; H. de Provence), a flourishing port and town of 14,046 Inhab., picturesquely seated in a valley wide enough only for the tidal river or creek which runs up it, lined with 2 quays and 2 rows of houses, "behind which the hills rise steep and woody on one side, on the other gardens and rocks and wood; the effect romantic and beautiful."—*A. Young.* The rock rises so close behind the houses as to give rise to a proverb, "From the garret to the garden, as they say at Morlaix." It is only 6½ m. from the sea, and is reached by vessels of considerable tonnage. The river has been converted into a floating-dock, divided into 2 parts, the lower with 14 ft. water, the upper with 12 ft. To the stranger its chief attraction will be the picturesque air of antiquity which it retains in its older quarters, such as Grande Rue, Nos. 9 and 14, and Rue des Nobles, No. 19, and the thoroughly Breton character of its timber framed houses overhanging the footway, each storey fronted with an apron of slates. There are several houses remaining of the 15th cent. The grotesquely carved corner posts, ornamented with figures of kings, priests, saints, monsters, and bagpipers, the Gothic doorways, the sculptured cornices, would enrich an artist's sketch-book, and furnish employment for many days. The costume of the people, especially those who come in on market-days, also is thoroughly in keeping with the buildings; their brimmed hats, their loose trunk hose, their shaggy locks hanging like manes down their backs, are all thoroughly characteristic of la Bretagne Bretonnante. Sad havoc has been made in this antique town by modern improvements; and the opening formed for the Rue de Brest, on the W., has swept away a crowd of crazy but picturesque constructions.

Two small streams, descending from separate ravines, but uniting above the town, are arched over to furnish space for the market-place and modern Hôtel de Ville; below which, expanding naturally, and partly by their bed being artificially excavated, they form a port, lined with quays and lofty picturesque houses. One of the houses on this quai is particularly remarkable for its carved staircase.

The best *Churches* were injured or

destroyed at the Revolution. The architect should visit *St. Melaine*, 3rd Pointed, approached by a flight of steps, porch and windows Flamboyant, with some old glass. See the *Font cover* of elegant Renaissance work. The Dominican *Ch.* is now a military store, and the picturesque gateway opposite, 16th cent., its walls inlaid with slate in patterns. Fine stained glass in the chapel of *N. D. des Victoires*, on the road to Brest.

In 1522 the fleet of Henry VIII., who was at that time incensed with Francis I. for seizing the ships and goods of English merchants in French ports, on its return from escorting the Emp. Charles V. to Spain, under the command of Henry Earl of Surrey, entered the river, and, effecting a descent in the neighbouring bay of Dourdu, surprised Morlaix. The English set fire to it, pillaged it, massacred the inhabitants, and burnt to the ground great part of it, "together with some right fair castles, goodly houses, and proper piles."—*State Papers.* They retired to their vessels loaded with booty; but 600 of the hindmost were intercepted by the infuriated inhabitants, and cut off with great slaughter near a spring, still called *Fontaine des Anglais*, or, as the Bretons, like their Welsh kinsmen, style them, the Saxons. Near this fountain is a very pleasant promenade, planted with trees, called *Cours Beaumont*, which extends nearly 1½ m. down the rt. bank of the river. The site of the old castle, planted with trees, commands a fine view of the town. There is a Welsh Baptist missionary church at Morlaix.

About ½ m. from Morlaix, on the hill above, *Convent of the Cordeliers*, on the l. bank of the river, a handsome Gothic church, dedicated to N. D. de la Salette, has been erected since 1862.

Morlaix is the native place of General Moreau—killed at Dresden, buried at Bordeaux.

Steamers run between Morlaix and Havre in 20 hrs., fare 25 frs.

An agreeable excursion may be made from Morlaix to *St. Pol de Léon* (13 m. *Diligence* twice daily, see Rte. 38) and Roscoff.

On leaving Morlaix the line passes by

12 m. *St. Thégonnec* Stat., 1 m. from the village (4000 Inhab.) of that name (the only conveyance a small mail-cart), where there is a remarkably elaborate and fanciful cruciform 16th-cent. *Church*, in the style of the Renaissance, richly decorated with sculptures in the dark Kersanton stone. The W. front is Gothic of the 14th cent. There is a domed tower at the S.W. angle, with date 1605: *obs.* the carved pulpit, and a reliquary. At the entrance of the churchyard is a Renaissance Arc de Triomphe, dated 1587; and within is l. a rich gabled Flamboyant mortuary chapel of two storeys, with an entombment in the crypt, having life-size figures sculptured in wood, and dated 1702. To the rt. is a Calvary, built 1610; the crosses surmounted by statuettes.

[2½ m. beyond this is *Guimiliau*, containing in its churchyard the most important *Calvary* in Brittany (1581); a triumphal arch, and an Ossuary. The *Ch.* is remarkable for its splendid oak carvings, pulpit, organ-loft and baptistery; over the font is a canopy supported by twisted columns, richly carved, 30 ft. high, date 1675.]

A mile farther the rly. crosses the Pensey river.

8 m. *Landivisiau* Stat. (*Inn:* H. du Commerce) has a *Church*, with a fine S. portal having statues of the 12 Apostles; and at the W. end an elegant tower and spire.

[The *Church of the Templars at Lanbader*, 5 m. N. of this, on the road to St. Pol, contains a beautifully pierced and carved *rood-loft* and screen of wood, composed of exquisite Flamboyant tracery, like lace; also a staircase in the same style. The chains of some knight, liberated from slavery among the followers of Mahoun, still hang in the choir.]

3 m. short of Landerneau, on a hill above the village **La Roche Maurice*, stand the ruins of its castle, reduced to 3 shattered towers, but very picturesque in its outline and position on the peaked top of a jagged rock.

In the churchyard is an **Ossuary*,

18th cent., in 10 compartments, filled with skulls and bones, ornamented in front with a sculptured frieze, representing the *Dance of Death*, executed 1639. The *Church* is Gothic, and built 1599, and contains some good painted glass. The carved portal in Kersanton stone, and the elaborate Renaissance sculptured rood-loft, are worth notice.

9 m. *Landerneau* Junct. Stat. (*Inn:* H. de l'Univers), a pretty town of 7853 Inhab., quaint and old-fashioned, with narrow streets, Gothic bits, and gateways, seated in the hollow of the charming valley of the Elorn, whose estuary forms one branch of the roadstead of Brest. The ch. of St. *Houardon*, built 1860, has an older *porch* (1607). An old convent here is converted into a naval or military hospital. [There is a good road (of 8 m.) from this to *Lesneven* and *le Folgoët*, where there is the very interesting ch. (see Rte. 38).]

The *railroads* to Brest from Paris by Rennes and Morlaix, and from Nantes, Lorient, and Quimper (Rte. 44), join at Landerneau.

A little beyond here, on the l. of the road, between it and the river Elorn, a ruined gateway, draped with ivy, is the sole subsisting relic of the *Castle of the Joyeuse Garde*, now known as Château le Forêt, the cradle of chivalry, the rendezvous of Arthur, Lancelot du Lac, and the Knights of the Round Table. Of course there is no pretension that the existing remains are of their time. The name Joyeuse Garde is supposed to be a perversion of a Breton term.

7 m. *Kerhuon* Stat. on a wide creek, used for storing timber for the dockyard.

5 m. **Brest** Stat. (*Inns:* H. des Voyageurs, good and moderate, dinner 3 frs., breakfast 2 frs. 50 c., room 2 frs.; H. Lamarque, good but dear; H. de Nantes, good cooking; H. de Provence; H. de la Bourse).

This chief naval arsenal of France on the ocean, a dockyard, and fortress of the first class, is very advantageously situated near the W. extremity of the Dépt. du Finistère (the Land's End of France), on that portion of her territory which projects most to the W. between the Channel and the Gulf of Gascony. It stands on the N. side of one of the finest havens in the world, nearly land-locked, accessible only through a narrow and well-fortified entrance, *Le Goulet*, about 1 m. wide, divided by a rocky islet (Roche Mengant) in the middle, and extending far inland in 2 branches, one to Landerneau, the other towards Châteaulin. The town is built on the summit and sides of a projecting ridge, and some of its streets are too steep to be passable except on foot. A narrow but deep creek, which is in fact formed by the mouth of the small stream the Penfeld, running up from the harbour behind this ridge, serves as the basin to the dockyard, and divides the town on its l. bank from the suburb of *Recouvrance* on its rt.

The communication between the town and suburb is kept up by a **Swing Iron Bridge* (*Pont tournant*), 56 ft. above high-water mark, in two divisions, 347 ft. long between the piers; it opens in the centre to allow ships of war to pass; each valve turns on a colossal granite pier, and moves by ingenious machinery. It was completed in June 1861, and is a fine work of engineering. Close above the mouth of this creek, which is not more than a musket-shot across, and defended by several tiers of batteries on either bend, rise the feudal round towers and colossal curtains, not less than 100 ft. high, of the picturesque *old Castle*, which belonged to the Ducs de Bretagne. It was besieged in vain by Duguesclin and Clisson, and was long held by the English, having for governor, 1373, the brave Robert Knolles. It was surrendered by Richard II. 1395, in consideration of 12,000 crowns, and was finally modernised by Vauban (1688), who formed casemates in the interior of its massive towers, and platforms with embrasures for cannon on their tops. From its walls there is a good view of the port and dockyard, but the Fort de l'Ecole, on the opposite side of the port, commands

one still finer, including also the roadstead. There are numerous prison chambers beneath the castle, and extensive vaults.

The inner port of Brest, or creek above mentioned, is so narrow that there is barely space near its mouth to hold the merchant-vessels; but there is no deficiency of depth (30 ft. at low water), and 30 or 40 ships of war lie within it in single file. Above the castle the shores of both sides of this creek are inclosed by a high wall, separating the dockyard from the town. Around the harbour run quays of great extent, alongside which the largest ships can lie, and 5 artificial basins are excavated out of the rock. The mouth of the creek is closed by a boom. There is a commercial harbour and dock for merchant-shipping at Porstrein, and a long breakwater in the roads protects it. The population of Brest is 67,833, exclusive of about 13,000 soldiers, sailors, &c. There is accommodation in the numerous barracks for a garrison of 10,000 men.

Although Brest is inclosed within ramparts, there are several fine open spaces within its walls: such are the square called *Champ de Bataille*, the Place Latour d'Auvergne, and the *Cours d'Ajot*, a promenade agreeable on account of the fine trees which shade it, and the beautiful view of the roads, appearing like a vast lake, which its terrace commands. The Rue de Siam, on the top of the hill, is the best part of the town; from it flights of steps lead to the Grande Rue.

More rain, it is said, falls in Brest than in any other town of France, and the whole department of Finistère is peculiarly exposed to storms, winds, mists, and fogs from the Atlantic.

The *Dockyard*, or *Port Militaire*, (the authorities connected with the dockyard—major de la marine, &c.—will not admit foreigners to visit it without a note from their Consuls) is situated on the 2 sides of a narrow but deep creek or arm of the sea, running up in a winding direction between high and steep rocks, which intrude so near upon the water that it is only by paring them down that space is formed for the buildings, and for the quays and yards required in front of them. Three dry docks of the largest dimensions (*Formes de Brest et de Pontaniou*) have been cut out of the rock. The first view, looking down from above into this narrow ravine, lined with long and massive ranges of buildings rising tier over tier in the form of an amphitheatre, is exceedingly striking. On one side is the *Voilerie* (sail-loft), *Magasin Général* (stores), and *Corderie* (ropewalk), of 3 storeys, surmounted by the *Bagne*, and above it the *Hospital*. On the opposite side of the river are various workshops, smitheries, *Atélier d'Artillerie de Marine* (burnt in 1833). The *Foundry*, and the *Quartier des Marins*, or sailors' barracks, where they are lodged when in port in the same manner as soldiers, fill up the opposite side. The level space at the water's edge is occupied by slips (cales de construction). Above the slips is the *Atélier des Capucins*, the government foundry and steam-factory, for the construction and repair of steam-engines: from a square tower connected with it the machinery is lowered into the ships. There are, besides, timber-yards, boat-sheds, water-cisterns supplied by a steam-engine where vessels fill their tanks, sheds for containing the new tanks, and government cellars, while a very large space near the sea entrance of the dockyard is covered with dismounted cannon. Here also is placed a trophy from Algiers, a brass gun 20 ft. long, reared on its breech; from the mouth of this gun a French consul, Levacher, was blown by a brutal Dey of Algiers into the French fleet in 1683. The precautions against fire and theft are very rigid; a guardian watches in every apartment; cisterns are placed at short distances with tubs full of water every 8 or 10 yards.

The ground occupied by most of these buildings has been gained, as before observed, by excavations out of the granitic schist of the hill-side. Greatly as the space on either side of the water has been widened by artificial means, the cliffs even now approach too near the slips and timber-sheds, preventing a free circulation of

air. Near the timber-sheds is the *Musée Maritime*, filled with models, ships' heads, &c.

On both sides of the port, roads are carried up the steep sides of the inclosing heights in zigzag terraces, so that they may easily be surmounted by carriages.

The Bagnes or hulks for convicts no longer exist, the prisoners having been removed in 1860 to the penal colony of Cayenne. The buildings now serve as storehouses for hemp and canvas.

On the Recouvrance side of the Penfeld lie the *Smithy* (Usine de Villeneuve), the iron-forges, furnaces, and workshops, moved by hydraulic machinery. The *Steam Factory* (Atéliers des machines à vapeur) is one of the largest and most complete in Europe, comprising a boiler-house, and sheds for construction and repairs of all parts of the steam-engine.

Near the mouth of the Penfeld, opposite the château, is the *Victualling Yard* (*Parc aux Vivres*), where every kind of provisions for the fleet is stored and prepared.

Outside the dockyard, a little higher up the hill than the old Bagnes, is the *Hôpital de la Marine*, an edifice of great extent, of which Brest may well be proud. It was built between 1824–1835. It contains 26 large wards, each with 53 beds; and is attended by a large staff of Religieuses, here called Sœurs Fidèles de la Sagesse, who are lodged within the building. So far from being revolting, as is the case in many hospitals, it is a pleasing sight to enter the salles. Here are wide, airy apartments, the roofs without speck, the floors, though of tile, sedulously polished and provided with pieces of carpeting, each window hung with white curtains, each bed of metal, also with curtains and furniture. The *salle des officiers* is superior to the common rooms, and even elegant. The kitchens, pharmacy and its annexed laboratories, linen-stores, &c., are in the same style. 1200 sick can be accommodated in this fine establishment.

The *British Consul*, Mr. Reynolds, resides in the Rue Voltaire.

There is a *French Protestant Church*.

At Roberts's library and reading-room, Rue d'Aiguillon, newspapers of various countries may be seen.

Railroads to Paris, by Rennes and Chartres; to Lorient, Auray, and Nantes.

A *Steamer* every day traverses the *Roadstead* to Port Launay. This excursion to the head of the harbour is very interesting. The ships of war laid up in ordinary are moored opposite Landevennec. It is a fine and safe harbour, superior to that of Cork, but not equal to Milford Haven.

Steam to Havre, times uncertain; 3 times a week to *Le Fret*, near the caves of *Crozon;* to Nantes and Bordeaux weekly.

The *Roadstead of Brest* lies between the great promontory of Finistère on the N. and the smaller peninsula of Quélern on the S., which approach so near as to leave a passage of only 1749 yards between them, called the *Goulet*. The *Mengant* rock, rising in the midst of this channel, contracts the entrance still more, and compels vessels to pass close under the guns of batteries which line it on either side, and command it by a cross fire. The roads consist of numerous bays, into which several rivers empty themselves, the principal being the Elorn from Landerneau, and the Aulne or river of Châteaulin, which is navigated by a steamboat. The roadstead is about 15 miles long, and in some places 3 m. broad, and the area of its surface is estimated at 15 square leagues, and, although there are several sandbanks and shoals, 200 vessels can anchor within it. The roadstead may be divided into two parts by a line from Ile Ronde to Ile Longue. In the lower part is the Banc de St. Pierre, near which is the anchorage for large ships; farther up is the Banc de St. Marc. The upper part contains numerous creeks called Anses. It is rather exposed to the N.W. winds, but still all the fleets of France can lie snugly within it, and a hostile ship dare not venture to attempt its entrance without the risk of being battered to pieces. Not only are the jaws of the harbour bristling with fortifications to the water's edge, but the

works are carried inwards so as to command the anchorage, and the batteries spread outside to the rt. and l. of the entrance, while every eminence is crowned with other forts commanding those below. The number of cannon and large mortars which could be brought to bear on an enemy from the batteries of the Goulet, and of the coast outside of it, is not less than 400, while 60 pieces sweep the anchorage within the Goulet. The forts and batteries defending the Goulet and roadstead are, on the N. the Fer à cheval and Parc au Duc, the forts of Portzic, of Délée, of Mengant, of Minou, where one end of the French Atlantic Telegraph wire was landed 1869; on the S. side those of Pointe Espagnole, of Robert, of Kervignou, of the Capucins, of Cornouailles, and of Cap-Tremet. On the N. of the Goulet, in the midst of the bay of Bertheaume, are 2 island forts united with the shore by bridges. The extreme fort on this side is the batterie de St. Mathieu, under the ruined abbey, and close to the lighthouse. On the S.W. of the Goulet lies the Bay de Camaret, one of whose numerous creeks goes by the name of *la Mort à l'Anglaise*, commemorating the defeat of the expedition which landed here in 1694 from a British fleet commanded by Admiral Berkeley. On approaching the shore the English found it bristling with armaments: batteries were thrown up on all sides, gunners at their posts, troops of horse and foot drawn up behind the guns, and, as soon as the English began to disembark, 3 masked batteries opened a destructive fire on the ships. 900 men under the command of General Tollemache, who persisted in landing in the face of such formidable preparations, reached the shore, and were almost immediately cut to pieces; the ebbing of the tide, having left their boats dry, cut off their retreat. The news of the intended descent had been betrayed to Louis XIV. and James II. more than a month before, by traitors in the English ministry. There seems no just reason for attributing this disclosure to the Duke of Marlborough, who was not in the ministry, although he appears to have written about the time of the sailing of the fleet from Portsmouth to his old master James:—"The capture of Brest would be a great advantage to England, but no advantage can prevent or ever shall prevent me from informing you of all that I believe to be for your service; therefore you may make your own use of this intelligence."—*Macpherson's State Papers.* In the interval between the receipt of the intelligence and the sailing of the armament the skill and activity of Vauban had put the intended landing-place in such a state of defence, by throwing up batteries, disposing cannon, and collecting troops, as to render success hopeless.

The *Pointe des Espagnols* owes its name to a body of Spaniards, about 600 strong, who occupied it for several weeks, in 1594, and threw up an earthen redoubt, which was captured by assault. The peninsula of Quélern is defended by lines, drawn across the isthmus which connects it with the mainland, nearly a mile long, consisting of bastions faced with masonry, constructed by Vauban, mounting 60 pieces of cannon. From a point near these lines, above the Bay of Camaret, *the finest view* is obtained of the roads of Brest and their defences, with the point of St. Mathieu and the archipelago of Ouessant on the N., and on the S. the Bay of Douarnenez and the Pointe du Raz and Iles de Sein.

The defences above enumerated do not include those of Brest itself, mounting upwards of 400 pieces of cannon, nor of the intrenched camp behind it, numbering 60 mortars.

Excursions.—The country about Brest is far from picturesque, but it contains many objects of interest.

a. The *Menhir of Plouarzel* (§ 4), about 10 m. N.W. of Brest and 3 beyond the village of St. Renan, is the loftiest of those singular Celtic monuments now remaining upright in Finistère. It measures 35 ft. in height, and stands on an eminence in the midst of a wild heath. Whatever its original destination, it is still looked on with awe by the peasantry, and singular superstitions are

associated with it. Often in the dead of night barren women repair hither, hoping to procure the boon of fruitfulness by rubbing their naked breasts against the hard granite.

Near the mouth of the river Aber Ildut, which flows past St. Renan, are the quarries of granite which furnished the pedestal for the obelisk of Luxor, erected in the Place de la Concorde at Paris.

3 m. N. of St. Renan, at *Lanrivoaré*, is the so-called graveyard of the 7777 saints, a walled inclosure, never trod by the peasants except with bare feet and head uncovered; it is paved with slabs, and marked by a cross.

The ruined *Abbey of St. Matthew*, situated on the extreme W. cape of Finistère, is about 15 m. from Brest and 10 from St. Renan. The roads from both places converge at the little town of *Le Conquet*, where la Grâce de Dieu is a decent cabaret. An attempt of the English in 1513, under Sir Edward Howard, to cut out some galleys from this port was foiled, and the Admiral slain. Conquet suffered from an English fleet sent forth by Queen Mary, 1558, to ravage the French coast, and to surprise Brest, "because it was known not to be well garrisoned, and was thought the best mark to be shot at for the time." The English commander, landing at Conquet, "put it to the saccage, with a great abbey, and many pretty towns and villages, where our men found good booties and great store of pillage."—*Holinshed*. Thence it is a walk of 3 m. along the tops of the granite cliffs to the ruins of the Abbaye de St. Mathieu, which stand on a bleak exposed promontory above the sea—the most W. point of France, and, with the exception of Cape Finistère in Spain, of the European continent. It occupies a position similar to St. Mary's Abbey, Whitby, so as to be the first and the last object seen by the mariner quitting or entering the Bay of Brest. The architecture is pointed (13th cent.) in the greater part of the building, with some Romanesque portions and round arches at the W. end. It is of solid granite, simple in style, and without ornament. Close beside the ruins a *Lighthouse* has been erected. In clear weather the eye ranges over the dangerous strait called *Chenal du Four*, beset with rocks, between the mainland and the granitic islands of *Beniguet*, *Molène*, and *Ouessant*. The last is supposed by some to be the Ultima Thule of the ancients: its inhabitants remained idolaters down to the 17th century. The indecisive naval action of Ushant (as we call it) was fought off this island, 1778, between the French fleet under d'Orvilliers, and the English under Keppel and Palliser. On the S. the roads of Brest and the peninsula of Quélern lie open, and on the horizon appears the Pointe du Raz. The *fort of Bertheaume* has been strongly armed and connected with the shore by a bridge, instead of the rope basket, formerly the only means of communication.

b. On the E. side of the roadstead, and on the shore of the estuary of the Landerneau river, opposite to Brest, lies *Plougastel*, remarkable for a *Calvary*, attached to its burying-ground, one of the most remarkable of the Gothic monuments of Finistère. The 3 customary crosses, carved in Kersanton stone (§ 6), are surrounded by an army of full-length stone saints, raised on a platform with bas-reliefs around it, rudely but forcibly executed, representing scenes of the Life and Passion of Christ. Some of the subjects, such as the entry of our Saviour into Jerusalem to the music of the *bigniou* (bagpipe), the Temptation, and Hell, are treated in a homely manner, approaching the grotesque, marking the hand of a rustic artist. "Notwithstanding its Gothic character, it appears by an inscription upon it to have been executed in 1602: but we must remember that the middle ages lasted longer in Brittany than elsewhere."—*Souvestre*.

The costume of the women of Plougastel is remarkable for its elegance.

Ferry and market boats ply between Brest and the point of Plougastel.

c. To the *Sea Grotto of Crozon*. Steamers 2 or 3 times a week from Brest to La Fret, a small port distant about 4 m. from the Cave; carrioles

to Crozon (H. du Commerce, a poor auberge), ½ an hour's walk to the village of *Morgot*, where boats may be hired for 3 or 4 frs. to enter the cave. You may return to Brest the same evening, or drive to Châteaulin Stat., on rly. to Nantes. This cavern has been excavated by the sea, and can be reached only by a boat, the entry, especially at high tide, being very low. Beyond, the vault rises and displays a vast hall, 40 ft. high, 150 long, by 70 ft. wide; lighted from below through the sea, which spreads over the roof and walls the most varied and brilliant tints—blue, green, lilac, orange, and pink, with here and there veins of red, like jasper or bloodstone, varying at every turn, like a vast irregular mosaic. In the midst rises an isolated block of red granite called "*La Pierre de l'Autel.*" From the sides stretch low galleries, into which the waves rush with a loud report.

The fine Gothic *Ch. of the Folgoët* (15 m.) (Rte. 38) will form an agreeable day's excursion for those interested in architecture. It can be more easily reached from the rly. station at Landerneau, from which a public conveyance starts, at 12·45 o'clock, for Lesneven; the distance being only 10 m.

ROUTE 37.

ST. BRIEUC TO AURAY, BY PONTIVY.—RAIL.

Distance, 77 m.; *time*, 5 hrs.; *trains*, 2 daily.

St. *Brieuc* is described in Rte. 36.

This Rly. runs due S., connecting the northern with the southern coast of Brittany, passing through

12 m. *Quintin* Stat., a town of 3500 Inhab., on the Gouet. The *Ch. of Notre Dame* dates from the 13th cent., and has a fine porch. The cemetery contains a curious *Ossuary*.

20 m. *Loudéac* Stat. (*Inn:* H. de France), a town of 6000 Inhab., with ruins of 2 castles.

28 m. **Pontivy** (or *Napoléonville*) Stat. (*Inns:* H. Grosset; H. des Voyageurs; H. de la Grande Maison), an ancient and highly picturesque town (Pop. 8146) with old walls and gates, and timber-framed houses, to which a new quarter was tacked on by Napoleon, who changed the name of the place to Napoléonville. At the restoration of the Bourbons this was dropped, revived under Napoleon III., and now again dropped. The river Blavet, rendered navigable to the sea at Lorient, and the canal from Brest to Nantes, afford openings for some commerce. The *Castle* of the Dukes of Brittany is of ancient foundation, but the actual edifice was rebuilt 1485. It is very picturesque, but rapidly falling to ruin. The fine church tower and spire of St. Nicodème is 6 m. from Pontivy.

[About 10 m. W. of Pontivy is *Kohan*, cradle of the noble family of that name, now a poor and insignificant village, but prettily situated. Of the *Castle*, now neglected by the princes its owners, scarcely a morsel of wall remains above the surface; the last fragments having been pulled down to build cottages.]

19 m. *Baud* Stat.

About 1 m. W. is the statue called *Venus of Quinipily*, standing in the garden of an old ruined château of that name. It is of granite, 8 ft. high, coarsely worked and badly designed; the arms are crossed in front over a piece of drapery like a stole, descending half-way down the thighs; in other respects it is naked. Nothing is known concerning its origin, and the conjectures are very vague on the subject. One writer supposes, from its Egyptian character, that it was a Gallic Isis, and it is called Venus only in the inscriptions on the pedestal set up 1689. This much is certain, that down to the 17th cent. it was worshipped with foul rites, and is even now looked on with superstitious veneration by the peasantry.

The Rly. from Brest is joined before reaching

16 m. **Auray** Stat., described in Rte. 160.

ROUTE 38.

ST. BRIEUC TO BREST.—COAST ROAD BY PAIMPOL, LANNION, MORLAIX, ST. POL DE LEON, AND FOLGOËT.

This route properly consists of two excursions from the railway between Rennes and Brest: it carries the traveller to a succession of interesting churches and ecclesiastical remains well worth visiting, though much of it lies over cross roads: no posting.

St. Brieuc (Rte. 36).

Thus far there is nothing remarkable, unless the traveller diverge about 1 m. to the l. of the road beyond Binic, on the W. side of the Bay of St. Brieuc, to visit the beautiful Gothic chapel of *Lantec*, which has been compared with the Ste. Chapelle at Paris.

Temple de Lanleff, 2 m. from the road from St. Brieuc to Paimpol. A carriage can easily get up to it. It has been the subject of much controversy, some writers calling it a Pagan Temple; but it is an early Christian church of the 11th cent., built, like some others in France, in imitation of the ch. of the Holy Sepulchre. It is in the form of a rotunda, like the English churches of the Temple, St. Sepulchre, Cambridge, Little Maplestead, &c. But the building which it perhaps most nearly resembles is the round church, now in ruins, at Nymegen, in Holland, attributed to Charlemagne. It consists of 2 concentric walls, the inner one a cylinder 30 ft. high, resting on 12 circular arches, supported on square piers, with engaged columns on each side, of granite, having rudely carved capitals of monsters, human faces, rams' heads. Outside of this runs the lower concentric wall, destroyed for a considerable part of its circuit. It is pierced with narrow loopholed windows, which widen inwards, the early form common in churches built before glass came into use. The tradition of the country is, that it was built by the Templars, the "Moines Rouges" as they are called. A noble *yew*, with trunk as high as the walls before it branched out over them, and of great age, which grew in the centre of the ch., was cut down about 1848.

Lanleff is about 19 m. from St. Brieuc, 7 from Paimpol, and 8 from Guingamp.

Paimpol (*Inns:* H. Gigquel, homely and clean; H. du Commerce, indifferent), a town of 2166 Inhab., much employed in the Iceland fishery.

On the seashore, 2 m. to the E. of Paimpol, near the village of Kerity, are the ruins of the *Abbey* of *Beauport*, beautifully situated on the shore of a retired bay. The remains consist of a *Church*, now roofless and deprived of the choir, in the Pointed style, with a W. front showing an Early English character, together with several conventual buildings at the E. end. An elegant small chapter-house, its vaulted roof supported on a row of circular pillars, is so perfect that it is now used as a school. On the N. side are an extensive vaulted cellar, and an apartment of a superior character, also vaulted, which was the grand refectory. English visitors are not readily admitted into the abbey; a Polish lady occupying it, whose husband is buried in the cloisters.

From Paimpol to *Tréguier* is about 9 m., passing through *Lézardrieux*, where the river Trieux, descending from Guingamp, is crossed by a wire suspension-bridge resting on lofty piers. From this a boat may be hired (for 2 or 3 frs.) to

The castle of *La Roche Jagu*, an interesting specimen of domestic architecture, finely situated on the Trieux above Lézardrieux, 2 m. from Pontrieux. It is a semi-castellated mansion, entered by a low doorway closed by an oaken door and a heavy iron gate of crossbars. Although dismantled, it is inhabited by a peasant. There is a fine view from its roof, embracing the Iles Brehat, the estuary of the Trieux, and in clear weather Jersey and Guernsey.

Another suspension-bridge thrown over the Jaudy leads into

Tréguier (*Inn:* H. de France, tolerable), a town of 3643 Inhab., occupying the summit and slope of a hill.

The *Church* (M. H.) in the market-

place, formerly the cathedral, has a fine S. porch, the vaulted roof panelled, and the divisions filled with quatrefoils, and a doorway ornamented with statues in niches, of good workmanship. The piers of the nave are irregular in form, and its arches vary in width. The N. transept is Romanesque, with circular arches and well-wrought capitals on its pillars. Contiguous to the ch. is a tower in the same style, and probably of the 11th cent., though named Tour de Hastings, after the Danish pirate of a much earlier period. This tower is best seen from the very interesting *cloisters* (15th cent.), remarkable for the tracery and moulding carved in granite.

In a farmhouse a little way out of the town, called Kermartin, is preserved the *bed of St. Yves*, a popular Breton saint. It is a *lit clos*, or cupboard bedstead, the front of dark wood finely carved. Diligence to (22 m.) Guingamp Stat. in Route 36. An *omnibus* runs from Tréguier to

10 m. *Lannion* (Pop. 6882) (*Inns:* H. de France, excellent; H. de l'Europe, good and moderate), on the Guier, possessing a market-place filled with odd old houses, several of a very peculiar style of architecture, and an early Gothic bridge. *Diligence* twice a day to the Plouaret Stat., distance 10 m. There are good roads hence to Guingamp, 20 m., and another by Plestin, 10 m., from which to Morlaix, 11 m.

The district extending N. from Lannion to the sea, between the rivers Guier and Jaudy, is the very cradle of romance. King Arthur held his court at *Kerdluel*, graced by the presence of the Paladins, Lancelot, Tristran, and Caradoc; and a short distance off the coast is an islet called Agalon or Avalon, one of the seven islands which the Bretons maintain to be King Arthur's burial-place, thus depriving Glastonbury of that honour.

About 6 m. S.E. of Lannion, on the E. of the Guier, between it and the road to Guingamp, is the *Castle of Tonquédec*, one of the largest and best preserved in Brittany. It was built in the 13th cent., and dismantled by order of Richelieu, after having served during the wars of the Ligue as a royal fortress. It consisted of 3 courts defended by moats, drawbridges, and portcullises. In the inner court is the *keep*, a tall round tower, "accessible only by an opening in its 2nd storey, approached by 2 drawbridges, supported midway upon an isolated square pier." The staircase was formed in the thickness of the wall. "In many respects these ruins are well worth coming some distance to visit. To the antiquary they are precious as a specimen of the military architecture of the 13th cent. For the sketcher they combine the requisites to form a lovely landscape."—*Trollope.*

There is excellent trout and salmon fishing in the Guier, which also abounds in leeches. In the season men and women too may be seen in deep water beating the water with poles: the leeches seem disturbed by this, and, attaching themselves to the legs of the operators, are thus caught.

An excursion may be made from Lannion to the *Church of Brélévenez*, of Romanesque and Transitional work, crowning a height and approached by a flight of 200 steps. To the *Castle of Coëtfrec*, 3 m. from Lannion, and of the 15th cent. It is of great extent, and a large portion in good preservation. *Perros Guirec* is a pretty little seaport about 6 m. distant, and 3 m. beyond is the harbour of *Ploumanach*, where enormous rocks of red granite are scattered about; some of very grotesque form. By taking a boat across the mouth of the Tregastel river, an enormous rocking-stone may be visited.

The direct road from Lannion to Morlaix passes 7 m. *St. Michel-sur-Grève*, a spot where the sea encroaches on the shore; after passing Plestin we enter the Dépt. du Finistère. On the sands near this, according to the legend, King Arthur fought the dragon.

9 m. *Lanmeur.* The *crypt* under the ch. here is of great antiquity, and incloses the holy fountain which led to its foundation, and is still held in repute by the common people. The piers which support the crypt have serpents carved on them.

About 5 m. N. of Lanmeur, in a dell close upon the coast, lies the mediæval village of *St. Jean du Doigt*, whose *Church*, containing a forefinger of St. John Baptist, is a very beautiful Gothic edifice, 1440-1513. This is a favourite place of pilgrimage with the peasantry, who repair hither to the number of 12,000 on the eve of St. John. The church has a wooden roof elegantly carved and painted and surmounted by a spire of lead; it also possesses a ciborium bearing enamelled medallions of the 8 Apostles, a beautiful crucifix of the 16th cent., a chalice and a patina presented by Anne of Brittany, who was a patroness of St. John's finger. She built the hospice by the side of the church to receive pilgrims.

In the interesting *Churchyard*, entered by a Flamboyant Gothic *Gateway*, is a fountain of lead, of Renaissance work, with figures, very good—16th cent.

7 m. *Morlaix* Stat. (Rte. 36). *Diligences* to St. Pol de Léon.

There is nothing very interesting beyond Morlaix until the towers and spires appear of

13 m. *St. Pol de Léon* (*Inn:* H. de France, comfortable; pretty view from the back). This ancient and almost deserted ecclesiastical city reminds one of St. Andrew's in Scotland, and St. David's in Wales, in its remote position near the seashore, in its decayed state, and in its ancient edifices. It possesses 6771 Inhab. and 2 very fine churches.

The * *Cathedral* (M. H.), dedicated to St. Pol, and restored 1866, is flanked at the W. end with 2 fine towers, whose central storeys, pierced with long and elegant lancet windows (like St. Pierre at Caen), are surmounted by spires. They open to the choir beneath, so as to form a sort of vestibule as at Peterborough. The nave is in the early Pointed style, probably of the 13th cent.; the transepts display Romanesque features; in the S. transept is a fine circular window, its tracery cut in granite. The trough-shaped basin for holy water near the W. end was probably a sarcophagus, and from its rude sculpture is certainly very old. The *choir*, longer, more ornamented, and of later date than the nave, is surrounded by double aisles, and ends in a Lady chapel; it contains some good carved wood-work of the 16th cent. The S. porch, a rich florid work with foliage delicately cut in Kersanton stone, merits examination. Some of the painted glass is good. In the ch. are several boxes with skulls, and in the cemetery a bone-house or ossuary.

The boast of St. Pol is the spire of the * *Church of the Kreizker* (the word means centre of the town), 393 ft. high; a structure of open work of great lightness and grace, though constructed entirely of granite. The richly ornamented square tower is surmounted by a very boldly-projecting cornice, above which rises the spire, its masonry cut to imitate overlapping tiles. The whole rests on 4 pillars, not particularly thick, but the arches of the aisles act as buttresses to support it. The interior view of the tower is remarkable. This spire was built at the latter end of the 14th cent. by John IV., Duke of Brittany, although it bears the arms of John Preignet of 1436: according to tradition the architect was English. The N. portal, florid and fringed, is very rich and in good taste, though much injured; the rest of the church is not remarkable.

3 m. to the N. lies the little port of Roscoff. Half-way, near Chapel Pol, are some Celtic remains, several dolmens, and a menhir.

Roscoff (*Inn:* H. des Bains de Mer, reasonable) (Pop. 4070) is filled with sailors, and contains a vegetable prodigy, *a fig-tree*, in the garden of the Capucin convent, whose branches, supported by scaffolding, would shelter beneath them 200 persons. The *Ch.*, though of the time of Louis XIV., has a Gothic character, while its details are Italian; at the W. end are 7 very fine bas-reliefs (? 14th cent.) in alabaster. There is a curious granite ossuary.

In 1548 Mary Queen of Scotland, then a child of 5 years, landed here, where she founded the little chapel of St. Ninian, near the harbour, now rapidly falling into ruin. Four days later she was affianced to the Dauphin

Francis at St. Germain. The young Pretender also landed at Roscoff after his escape from Scotland. All the ground about Roscoff is cultivated for vegetables, especially for onions, which are sent in large quantities to England.

Opposite Roscoff lies the little island of *Batz* (*Ile Bas*), separated from the mainland by a strait which may be crossed in 10 min. All the male inhabitants are sailors, the soil being cultivated exclusively by the women.

There are two roads from St. Pol to Lesneven on the way to Brest; that by Plouescat (19 m.) passes through a very primitive country, and is bordered by at least 30 very curious crosses; the other road more direct and inland to

7 m. *Lesneven.* (*Inn:* H. Grande Maison, fair.) Some Roman remains, urns, &c., found a few miles S.E. of this dull but picturesque old town, on the way to Landivisiau, have been supposed to mark the site of the long-lost Breton town *Occismor.*

Pursuing the road to Brest, 1 m. beyond Lesneven in a dreary plain, we reach the *Church of Notre Dame de *Folgoët*, marked in the distance by its tall elegant spire, a remarkable 2nd Pointed Gothic building. It owes its origin to the following circumstance:—This spot was once haunted by an idiot-boy, named Saluan (Solomon), who was in the habit of soliciting alms of those who passed, using at the same time the one unvaried exclamation, "Oh! Lady Virgin Mary!" so that the place became known as "ar fol coet," the fool of the wood. The fool died, and in a short time there sprang up from his grave, even out of his mouth, according to the legend, a lily, whose leaves bore inscribed upon them the name of Mary. This miracle was noised abroad, and, coming to the ears of Jean de Montfort, then warring with Charles de Blois for the dukedom of Brittany, he vowed to build a church on the spot if he triumphed over his rival. In consequence, after the victory of Auray, he laid the first stone on the spot where the lily had sprouted, but the church was not finished until 1423, by his son John V.

In plan it consists of a nave and aisles under one roof, a short choir and aisles, and a long S. transept at the E. end. It is built of the very dark greenstone called Kersanton (§ 6), which gives the edifice a gloomy appearance, but it is well adapted for delicate sculpture, by the sharpness with which it has retained the delicate touches of the artist's chisel. Almost every part of the church, inside and out, deserves minute inspection; the fertile invention and skill of the sculptor are visible in almost every part, though the edifice has been sadly injured through neglect. Round the doorway of the W. portal, the canopy of which fell down 1824, runs a delicate wreath of thistles and vine-leaves, perfect in their prickly flowers and stems, and even in the very fibres of the leaves and the curves of the stalks and tendrils. Birds also (chardonneret) and serpents are interspersed among the leaves. Above the door is a bas-relief of the Nativity, the Adoration of the Magi on one side (St. Joseph with wooden shoes has all the character of a Breton peasant), and of the Shepherds on the other. Below, the centre pier is formed into an elegant niche inclosing the bénitier under a graceful canopy, and supporting it on a bracket. Among the foliage here, and forming a cornice on the S. side, may be seen the ermine, the armorial device of the dukes of Brittany, bearing their motto, "A ma vie." A more beautiful porch is attached to the S. transept. Here 12 niches line the vault leading to the door, in the mouldings around which similar leaves and wreaths are reproduced with far greater truth and delicacy. This portal is believed to have been built by Anne of Brittany, as the arms of France united to those of Brittany are visible on it. The sloping, open parapets which decorate the gables of the transept, the tracery of the E. windows, especially the central one surmounted by a rose, and the elegant arched niche at the E. end below it, on the outside of the church, constructed to receive the waters of the miraculous *fount*, which bursts forth from beneath the high altar itself, are not to be passed unnoticed. The water of this spring

is held in great repute by pilgrims, who, regardless of bystanders, strip themselves to apply it to all parts of their persons. Within the church on the rt. is the *Fool's Chapel*, covered with one solitary fresco. The *Jubé* or *rood-loft* between the choir and nave consists of 3 round arches elegantly fringed, surmounted by canopies resting on panelled pillars, and supporting a gallery, of rich open work, pierced with quatrefoils. The foliage composing the crockets is an elaborate yet natural imitation of the most complicated leaves.

The E. window, seen from within, surmounted by its rose, is admirable for its tracery: the high altar below it is a single slab of stone, 14 ft. long, supported on a front of niche-work filled with statuettes. The side screens and side altars are all more or less worthy of observation. There are numerous statues of saints curious for their costume. But the chief peculiarity of this church is the manner in which the sculptor has rendered into stone the productions of the vegetable kingdom. The modern bas-reliefs on the pulpit represent the life of Salaun.

The interior is dark, and the roof does not agree with the rest in splendour, and is evidently not completed conformably with the original plan.

The *Gothic College* on the N. side of the church was built by Anne of Brittany; she, as well as Francis I., were lodged in it when they came on a pilgrimage to the Folgoët.

The country between St. Pol and Brest was formerly dreary and poverty-stricken, but is now improved. The villages are prettily situated in the valleys, and many of the hills are topped by Gothic church-spires. The ch. at *Gouesnou*, about 4 m. before reaching Brest, has a finely carved porch lined with mortuary chests and skulls.

We fall into the high road from Paris about a mile before reaching *Brest* (in Rte. 36).

ROUTE 41.

ST. MALO TO NANTES, BY DINAN AND RENNES—ASCENT OF THE RANCE.

The Rly. to Rennes by Dol, avoiding Dinan, is described in Rte. 28.

The détour by Dinan is longer than the railroad, but passes through a much more interesting country.

St. Malo is described in Rte. 27.

A *Steamer* ascends the Rance daily, but does not run at some states of the tide, and the time of delay at Dinan varies with the tide, so that it is of very uncertain value to the traveller. There is much beauty in the scenery. The voyage takes 2 hrs. There is a lock to be passed at Châtelier, by means of which a sufficient depth of water is always maintained in the Rance up to Dinan.

Owing to the variation in the height of the tides on this coast, amounting to 40 ft., the current of the Rance is very rapid, the river filling and emptying itself with remarkable celerity.

The steamer quits the harbour rounding the point on which stands l. the Fort de la Cité, then enters the inlet formed by the estuary of the Rance. The places passed in succession upon either bank are—

l. *Dinard* (*Inns:* H. des Bains, good; H. Franklin; H. de France), a pretty watering-place, sea-bathing, &c., connected with St. Malo by steam ferry every hour, and far pleasanter residence than St. Malo. *Eng. Ch. Service* at 11 and 5 on Sundays, in a commodious church.

The only fragment of antiquity is the Priory, in whose chapel are monuments of 2 of the Montforts. *Diligences* run daily from Dinard to Dinan and to Lamballe.

l. *St. Suliac*, the prettiest village on the Rance.

l. *Port St. Hubert*, a little watering-place in a charming situation.

l. *Plouer.*

rt. *Pleudihen.*

Châtelier.

l. *Taden.*

The river is confined between lofty

precipices nearly all the way to Dinan, and varies in breadth from ¼ to ½ m.; sometimes expanding into wide reaches, like the Dart near Totnes.

The high road from St. Malo to Dinan runs on the E. side of the Rance, and is devoid of interest until it comes in view of Dinan.

Foot-passengers can now cross to St. Servan at all times of the tide by a flying bridge on wheels (*Pont Roulant*), which is drawn backwards and forwards by a stationary steam-engine.

Half-way is Châteauneuf, a strong fort covering the high road to Rennes; here are remains of an old castle.

We here quit the direct road to Rennes by St. Pierre de Plesguin 8 m.; Hédé 16 m. (*see* below).

Rennes 23 kilom. = 14¾ Eng. m.

[Some of the prettiest scenery of the Rance may be seen by those who, travelling *by land*, choose to quit the high road and their vehicle about 8 m. short of Dinan, walk over to the river at l'Ecluse, and ascend its rt. bank.]

Pursuing the post-road, the picturesque towers and spires of Dinan are seen crowning the summit of a rocky steep. *A granite viaduct*—a work worthy of the Romans—carries the carriage-road across the valley of the Rance nearly on a level with the town, so as to avoid the toilsome descent and ascent formerly incurred by travellers approaching from St. Malo. The arches are 10 in number; the principal piers, rising from the bed of the Rance, are 130 ft. high; the whole of solid masonry. The work was begun by Louis Philippe, but only completed in 1852.

11 m. **Dinan** (*Inns:* H. de Bretagne, outside the gate, on the road to Brest, good and well managed, since it has been rebuilt and enlarged. With general sitting-room. Board and lodging 9 frs. a day, without wine; H. de la Poste, also rebuilt and good, on the Place Duguesclin; H. du Commerce).

The English settled in Dinan are now numerous: and there is an *Eng. Ch.*, in which service is performed on Sundays at 11 and 4½ P.M.

Medical man, Dr. Guillard.

Bankers, Robert, Place du Champs; Bazin, Rue de l'Horloge.

Bookseller, Chesnais, Place du Champs, keeps an English library.

Boarding Houses, Mdlle. Coste, near the Porte St. Louis; Miss Barr, near the Porte St. Malo (board 40 frs. a week).

The *Steamer* from St. Malo ascends the Rance as far as the bridge of Dinan (*see* above).

Rly. in progress, E. to Dol, W. to Lamballe. *Diligences* daily to *Lamballe*, and to *Caulnes-Dinan* (both Stats. on the rly. to Brest); to St. Malo.

The country in which Dinan is placed is perhaps the most beautiful in Brittany. The situation of the town (8510 Inhab.) is very romantic, on the crown and slopes of a hill of granite, overlooking the deep and narrow valley of the Rance, flowing 250 ft. below it. The sides of the hill are excessively steep; but, notwithstanding, houses and streets have been built along the face of it to the water's edge. The Rue de Jerzual, which stretches down to the fine old Gothic bridge, with two pointed arches, is so precipitous as to be scarcely practicable except on foot; yet this originally formed the only approach to the town on the side of St. Malo, through a pointed and ribbed Gothic gateway.

The Porte St. Louis stands close to the old and picturesque *Castle*, built about 1300, and often inhabited by Anne of Brittany, converted into a prison. It was besieged by the Duke of Lancaster in 1389, and successfully defended by Duguesclin against the English. It stands on the edge of the ravine on the outskirts of the town, and isolated from it by a deep fosse. The present entrance has been forced through a wall into the chapel, a finely vaulted chamber. A recess on one side, beside the altar, in which the lord or lady of the castle might hear mass without being seen, is called the Fauteuil de la Reine Anne. The deep cornice of machicolations which crown the Donjon tower give it a very picturesque appearance; there is a good view from its top.

The *Place Duguesclin* receives its name from that Breton hero, whose *statue* is placed in the midst of it; and from the circumstance of its having been

the lists in which he fought and vanquished an English knight, "Thomas of Cantorbery," whom he challenged to single combat for seizing treacherously, in time of truce between the two nations, his brother Oliver, 1359.

The *Ch. of St. Sauveur* (M. H.) is an interesting edifice, in the Romanesque style, such as is more commonly met with in the S. of Europe than in the N. The crumbling nature of the granite of which it is composed gives it the appearance of greater antiquity than it really possesses. The lower part of the W. front and the S. side are probably of the 12th or even 11th cent.; the rest has been modernised. The central portal, a round arch deeply recessed within mouldings and pillars (the two outer ones detached), is flanked on each side by blank arches, containing statues of the four Evangelists standing on lions, &c., under curious Romanesque canopies. From the wall above, the winged lion and ox, attributes of St. Mark and St. Matthew, project in high relief. The buttresses against the S. wall are in the form of round attached pillars, or square pilasters surmounted by capitals. The little Decorated vaulted chapel projecting from the S. wall deserves notice; but there is nothing else within the church to notice except an old bénitier and a black slab in the N. transept, having engraved on it a double-headed eagle, whose outspread wings are crossed by a bar, below which a quaint inscription informs us that the heart of Bertrand Duguesclin (spelt g u e a q u i) is deposited beneath it, while his body was laid among those of kings at St. Denis, but the slab was found among the ruins of the church of the Jacobins, now razed; and all traces of the heart, and of the tomb of the Lady Tiphaine, the wife of Duguesclin, by whose side the heart was deposited, are gone: though some assert that the heart was in the ch. in 1810. The body shared the fate of the royal ashes at the desecration of St. Denis in the Revolution. There is a still finer *Church* (*St. Malo*), rebuilt in 1490, in the street leading from the Brest gate to the college.

The old town wall and watch-towers still remain; the streets in the older quarters abound in picturesque bits of architecture. The fine old timber houses are supported on columns forming a covered way for foot-passengers. No spot in Brittany is better fitted to exercise the artist's pencil.

The *Museum* at the Hôtel de Ville is very interesting and instructive for the geology and antiquities of the district, and especially for the sepulchral monuments of the Beaumanoirs, removed here from the ruined abbey ch. of *Lehon*.

The admirer of ancient domestic architecture should explore the narrow streets, with overhanging houses, the basements planted on pillars, each storey projecting on corbels, which form the nucleus of the town. Arcades resting on carved granite pillars or wooden posts are very prevalent. Besides the steep Rue de Jerzual already mentioned, the Carrefour d'Horloge, so called from its lofty granite clock-tower, the Place des Cordeliers, the Rue de la Vieille Poissonnerie (where is a house bearing the date 1366), and the Rue de la Croix (where the house of Duguesclin and his lady Tiphaine is shown near the Hôtel de Ville), are the most remarkable in this respect.

On the outside of the town, under the old walls, now overgrown with ivy, while the ditches are converted into gardens, run agreeable *Terraces*, commanding beautiful views over the vale of the Rance. The Mont Dol and Mont St. Michel are visible, it is said, from some points. There are manufactories of fine linen and of sailcloth in and about the town.

Excursions almost without end may be made on horse and foot in this delightful neighbourhood. Donkeys may be hired.

a. At the distance of less than a mile from the Porte St. Louis, prettily situated in the bottom of a dell, through which a streamlet falls into the Rance, lies the village of *Lehon*, where are the ruins of a once celebrated abbey and a castle. The *Abbey* is entered by a fine circular archway within deep mouldings: the church, now roofless, is in

the early Pointed style. La Chapelle des Beaumanoirs was the burial-place of the family of that name, whose tombs were broken open at the Revolution, and the remains dispersed, while their monumental effigies, originally placed in the niches on either side of the church, have been removed to the museum at Dinan, where there are 4 figures of warriors in armour, and an ecclesiastic, all in high relief; the drapery well executed, the hands folded in prayer. One of them is said to have been son of the leader of the Bretons in the famous "Combat des Trente." (See Rte. 42.)

The steep wooded height above the village is crowned by the *Castle*, now reduced to a square inclosure of walls, having round towers in the angles and centre of each face. It was taken by Henry II. of England, 1168. From this castle-crowned height a beautiful view opens out of the village and abbey below, of the course of the Rance and the romantic valley through which it flows. The navigation above this is continued by means of a canal which unites the Rance with the Vilaine.

The walk may be very pleasantly extended from this along the slopes of the hills by paths across the fields behind the Hospice des Aliénés (a magnificent institution called *les Bas Foins*, containing 600 inmates; it is under the direction of the brotherhood of St. Jean de Dieu; the patients are employed in horticultural and agricultural occupations), towards the village of St. Esprit, where there is a curious *Gothic crucifix* in granite, with figures of the First and Second Persons of the Trinity, now mutilated. The charm of this walk, however, is the fine view it presents of the antique towers and spires of Dinan, on the opposite side of the valley to the rt., and the insight it affords into the curious system of labyrinthine lanes by which a great part of Brittany is traversed. The country is well wooded, abounding especially in oaks, and each field is surrounded by hedges. The lanes by which it is intersected in all directions, owing to the soft and crumbling nature of the soil, differ little from ditches worn down 8 or 10 ft. below the surface of the fields, and vary in character between a pool or slough of mud and a mound of hard bare rock. A stranger is almost sure to lose his way among them, so intricate and numerous are their crossings. The country, seamed and grooved by these hollow ways, is like a rabbit-warren, and this thoroughly explains how the Chouans and Vendéans were able, among such fastnesses, to set at defiance so long the armies of the Republican Government.

b. The *Château de la Garaye*, about 2 m. from Dinan, is a ruined mansion of the time of Francis I., exhibiting in its falling walls and towers some picturesque bits of architecture in the style of the Renaissance of the 16th cent., intermixed with Gothic ornaments. The last owner, Claude Toussaint, Comte de la Garaye, quitting the gay world, converted this house into a hospital, while, with his wife, he devoted all his time and fortune to the care of the sick. To fit themselves for this duty they both studied medicine and surgery, and the lady* became an excellent oculist. The hospital was destroyed at the Revolution, which the benevolent founders fortunately did not live to see, having died 1755-7; but the monument over the graves even of these benefactors of the district, in the churchyard of Taden, did not escape destruction from the hands of the Revolutionary despoilers.

c. d. The *Castles of Montafilant* and *Guildo*, the latter on the coast near Ploubalay.

e. About 14 m. N.W. of Dinan is the *Château of La Hunaudaye*, an interesting old castle surrounded by ramparts and ditch, and tolerably perfect, in the form of a pentagon. It is supposed to have been built in the 13th century, by Olivier de Tournemine. It is to be reached only by a cross-road, intricate to find without a guide, passing through Corseul, site of *Curiosolitum* mentioned by Cæsar, where Roman remains have been discovered.

* Mrs. Norton's fascinating poem on the Lady of Garaye has added the charm of poetical association to these ruins.

About 10 m. beyond the castle, on the coast, is St. Cast, where an ill-contrived expedition of the English was ignominiously defeated in attempting an inroad on Brittany in 1758.

f. About 4 m. from Dinan, in the middle of a thick wood, are the ruins of the castle of the ancient family of Coetquens. Beneath are large dungeons.

1½ m. to *La Fontaine*, a very pretty walk.

From Dinan to Rennes it may be worth while to take the route by

Hédé, for the sake of the *ruined Castle*, occupying a very picturesque site and commanding a beautiful view. In the chapel of Montmuran, near Hédé, Duguesclin was armed a knight.

At Tintinnières is an old ch. with peculiar bell-gable. The small town of Evran is situated on the *Canal* which joins the Rance to the Ille. The castle of the Beaumanoirs here is now modernised. The country beyond is very tame; fields and hedgerows, and few villages. Country-houses, where they occur, lie at a distance from the road, without lodges or ornamental grounds.

14 m. *Rennes* Junct. Stat., in Rte. 34. Rly. N. to St. Malo (Rte. 28), E. to Vitré (Rte. 34), W. to Brest (Rte. 36), and S. 49 m. to *Redon* Junct. Stat. (Rte. 42), and thence to Nantes.

There is a carriage-road from Rennes to NANTES by Châteaubriant, 119 kil.= 73 Eng. m., through a fine country by

11 m. Corps Nuds.

10 m. Thourie.

11 m. **Chateaubriant** (*Inns:* H. de la Poste, good and clean; H. des Voyageurs, small, but clean), a town of 4834 Inhab., at the junction of several roads. Its ancient walls remain nearly intact. The *Castle*, full of historic interest, was once a Royal residence at which Henri II. received the investiture of the Garter, at the hands of Lord Northampton, 1551, was dismantled by Henri IV. and Louis XIII., but part of it, including a spiral stair leading to the chamber in which, according to tradition, Françoise de Foix was bled to death by her husband Jean de Laval (1535), are incorporated in the public offices. The *Ch. of St. Jean de Béré* is an interesting Romanesque structure; altogether the town is worth a visit. *Diligence* daily to Laval Stat., in Route 34.

11 m. La Meilleraye.

About 1 m. on the l. of the road lies a *Monastery of the Order of La Trappe*. It was sold as national property 1793, and was repurchased 1816 by a Society of Trappists, who had settled at Lulworth in Dorsetshire. They now number nearly 150, including lay brethren.

12 m. *Nort* (*Inn:* H. Lion d'Or, homely, but cheap and clean) is a small town of 5400 Inhab., on the l. bank of the Erdre, which becomes navigable here for *steamers*. One plies daily between Nantes and Nort. The Erdre is a river of considerable beauty, for 12 m. below this passing between low rocky hills covered with trees, and near Nantes ornamented with the country-houses of its citizens. At one place it swells out into the form of a lake. On its rt. bank are Chapelle-sur-Erdre, and the castle of la Gâcherie, once the residence of the Princess Marguérite de Navarre, sister of Francis I., and authoress of the romances known as the 'Heptameron.'

A little farther is a castle of Gilles de Retz, whose story is told in Rte. 59.

12 m. Carquefou.

6 m. NANTES (in Rte. 46).

ROUTE 42.

MORLAIX TO NANTES, BY HUELGOET, CARHAIX, PONTIVY, JOSSELIN, AND PLOERMEL.

This will be found a convenient route for visiting the interior of the country. It includes several localities of interest, and traverses a quiet unbeaten track; in some places a private vehicle must be procured.

There is a good view of the town of Morlaix (Rte. 36) from the heights crossed on quitting it. The road gradually approaches and surmounts the chain of the Arrée hills, through a desolate moorland country. The summit-level is reached at Coatanscours. About 1½ m. beyond Le Mendi, a hamlet 1·2 m. from Morlaix, a road turns off on the rt. to

Le Huelgoet (4 m.) (*Inn:* H. de Bretagne), a poor town of 1277 Inhab., but very prettily placed on a tarn or lake, in a remote and thinly-peopled district once celebrated for its *Mines* of lead containing silver. They are situated about 1¼ m. from the village, in the midst of a picturesque valley, through which runs a rushing stream, concealed from view at one particular spot by an *éboulement* of colossal fragments of rocks. The works have been suspended, and mines closed.

In the *Church* of Huelgoet is a curious reading-desk (*lutrin*) resting on a pedestal of wood, resembling a classic tripod, each of the 3 sides ornamented with a figure in bas-relief. On one is a man with long hair and a mace over his shoulder, with no other clothing than a short cloak; on another a young man in classic garb, bearing a torch in one hand and a dart in the other; on the third a female bearing a cup and vase, in the guise of a Bacchante.

The *Ménage de la Vierge* is a species of cave formed by fallen masses of granite rock, through which a small stream of black water and of unknown origin flows, in places out of sight, excavating the stone into basins and funnels. It is not difficult to descend into the gulf. Near this is a *Rocking Stone* (*Pierre branlante*).

[The *Cascades of St. Herbot* will well repay a visit from Huelgoet, not so much on account of the waterfalls themselves as for the pretty scenery enjoyed in the walk to the little valley in which they lie, varied with dense woods and bare jutting rocks. The village *Church*, surmounted by a square tower, contains the tomb and effigy of the anchorite St. Herbot, some carved screen-work in the choir, and a *rood-loft* of elaborate and beautiful workmanship in the style of the Renaissance. There are 2 painted windows of rich colour dated 1556. It has a fine W. portal in the decorated style, but bearing the date 1516, an ogee arch ornamented with frizzled foliage, and a still more beautiful S. porch. Herbot is a veterinary saint, who cures the diseases of animals, provided a lock of the beast's hair be laid on his altar.

At *Branilis* in the parish of Locquefret, about 6 m. from Huelgoet, at a distance from any village, surrounded by 3 or 4 hovels, is a fine large *Church* in the best style of Gothic art, surmounted by a spire, and internally adorned with carving in stone and wood, and with painted glass; it is now falling into decay.

Poullaouen, on the direct road from Morlaix to Carhaix, contains other *lead mines*, but inferior in extent and productiveness to those of Huelgoet. Here, however, are the *smelting-houses* in which the ore from both mines is reduced. The galleries of the mine have been driven horizontally ¾ mile, and vertically more than 600 ft., through the Silurian rocks. These works are also now closed.

There is a direct road (15 m.) from Huelgoet to

Carhaix (*Inn:* H. La Tour d'Auvergne, not very good), a primitive, dull, and dirty town (2958 Inhab.) among the hills, in the midst of that most unsophisticated district of ancient Brittany called Cornouaille. It abounds in old houses, with projecting cornices and carved timber-work, and is inhabited by people who look as old-fashioned as their dwellings. Here is shown the house in which La Tour d'Auvergne (Théophile-Malo Corret) was born, in 1743; who, a stern Republican as well as a brave soldier, steadily refused rank, but died the "premier grenadier de France," in the battle-field of Neuburg, on the banks of the Danube. A statue of him by *Marochetti* has been erected in the little Place. In the *Château de la Haye* are preserved his heart, an early portrait, his sword, and his boots.

A little way out of the town on the

road to Callac is an ancient structure, said to be a Roman aqueduct. There is also a Roman road which can be traced for more than a mile on the way to St. Gildas. Richard Cœur-de-Lion was defeated at Carhaix, 1197, by his rebellious vassals, the nobles of Brittany. Six roads unite here—1, to Landernau for Brest; 2, to Morlaix; 3, to Guingamp; 4, to Vannes through Rostrénen and Pontivy; 5, to Hennebont; 6, to Chateaulin through Chateauneuf du Faou.

A direct road leads from Carhaix to Hennebont, over the high range of the Montagne Noire by Le Faouet (*Inn:* Lion d'Or, poor, but good fishing), romantically situated, and having not far from it the beautiful but decayed *Church of St. Fiacre*, with carved wooden rood-loft, &c.

The road to Pontivy quits the Dépt. of Finistère soon after leaving Carhaix, passes Rostrénen (Dépt. Côtes du Nord), beyond which it crosses the Brest and Nantes Canal, and reaches

Pontivy (or *Napoléonville*) Stat. on rly. from St. Brieuc to Auray (see Rte. 37).

Posting is established on the road between Pontivy and

21 m. **Josselin** (Pop. 2766). (*Inn:* H. Croix d'Or). The *Castle of Josselin*, an ancient feudal fortress, founded on a rock above the river Oust, was the residence of the famous Constable de Clisson, who added a donjon, now destroyed, to the building, and died here, 1407, in a chamber facing the river, still pointed out. The oldest parts are the round towers, on the outside, built of slate. The most remarkable portion of the building is the inner front, in the irregular but picturesque style of Gothic in its latest form, equivalent to our Elizabethan, and dating probably from the 16th cent. It is surmounted by pointed gables, and no two divisions correspond; the windows, surmounted by Gothic canopies, are interspersed with parapets of interlacing tracery, in the midst of which the words "à plus," the motto of the Rohans, to whom the castle still belongs, cut in letters of stone, are constantly recurring. From the initials A. V. with a coronet, it is supposed to have been built by Alain VIII. Vicomte de Josselin.

The *Tomb of Olivier de Clisson*, in the *Ch. of Notre Dame*, was violated at the Revolution, and the effigies of himself, and his wife Marguerite de Rohan, through whom he inherited the castle, were broken to pieces. They have been carefully put together, restored, and placed in a side chapel. Here is some good painted glass.

In the midst of a grove of firs, halfway between Josselin and Ploërmel, a modern obelisk marks the spot where the *Combat des Trente* took place. Here, if we may believe Breton poets and writers of modern date (for ancient authority is wanting for the event, and many have doubted whether it ever occurred), close to an oak, which has long since disappeared, called "chêne de Mi Voie," a battle is said to have been fought 1351, between 30 Bretons on the side of Charles de Blois, and 30 partisans of Jean de Montfort, consisting of 20 English, 4 Flemings, and 6 Bretons, there not being enough English on the spot to form the full complement of combatants. The challenge was given by Du Beaumanoir, the Breton leader of the garrison of Josselin, to his opponents, who composed part of the garrison of Ploërmel, in consequence of an alleged infraction of a treaty by the latter. The English were led on by a knight whom the French call Brembro (? Pembroke), and after a very stout resistance were vanquished, chiefly owing to the death of their leader. The combat of the 30 is not mentioned in the oldest copies of Froissart, the contemporary chronicle of the wars of Brittany, and i doubted by Daru in his History; notwithstanding which the monumental obelisk erected since the Restoration, in the place of one destroyed at the Revolution, headed "Vive le Roi! Les Bourbons toujours!" gives a list of the names of the 30 Bretons engaged in it.

7 m. *Ploërmel* (Rte. 36). *Diligence* to *Questembert* Stat. on the rly. from Lorient to Redon (20 m.) passing by

Malestroit, on the canal from Brest to Nantes.

18 m. **Redon** Junct. Stat. (Buffet) (see Rte. 44). Rly. to—

51 m. **Nantes.** See Rte. 46.

ROUTE 44.

BREST TO NANTES, BY CHATEAULIN, QUIMPER, LORIENT, AURAY [EXCURSIONS TO CARNAC AND LOCMARIAKER], VANNES AND REDON—RAIL.

Brest to	Kil.	Miles.
Landerneau	19	12
Daoulas	37	23
Châteaulin	72	45
Quimper	102	63
Rosporden	122	76
Quimperlé	147	91
Lorient	167	104
Auray	202	126
Vannes	222	137
Redon Junct.	275	170
Pont Château	303	175
Savenay	317	196
Nantes	350	220

Time, 11 hrs.; 1 *train* daily.

Brest and the rly. as far as 12 m. *Landerneau* Junct. Stat. are described in Rte. 36. Here the rly. to Nantes turns abruptly S. from the line to Morlaix and Rennes, by

18 m. *Hanvec* Stat. 5 m. distant is *Le Faou*, a village of 1200 Inhab. seated on a river which becomes all slime at low water. The costume of the people in this part of Brittany is such as was worn in England in the time of Charles I. and II.—slouched hats, trunk hose (*bragou bras*, *i. e.* brogues or breeks), very wide, and with many folds, the hair hanging down the men's backs, reminding one of the pictures in Isaac Walton. The black charcoal-burners thus attired have a very singular appearance. The women here wear a sort of cravat round their necks. The Pardon (§ 5), celebrated four times a year at Rumengol near Le Faou, is attended with very curious ceremonies.

From the high ground beyond Le Faou a pretty view is obtained on the rt.

The rly. next dips into a wooded and picturesque dell, at the bottom of which is a royal manufactory of gunpowder, called Pont de Puis. Another hill surmounted, and we reach the banks of the Châteaulin river at *Port de Launay*.

[Travellers who traverse the Rade de Brest will pass in view of

rt. The Pointe des Espagnols, the extreme projection of the peninsula of Quélern, and l. the Pointe de l'Armorique, both strongly defended by forts. During the wars of the Ligue, a Spanish force sent over to aid the Duc de Mercœur in his resistance to Henri IV. took possession of the point, and, intrenching themselves on it, completely commanded the entry of the roads. Their fort (Crozon) was at length captured by assault by Maréchal d'Aumont, assisted by 1800 English, commanded by Col. Norris, sent over by Queen Eliz., after an obstinate defence, and all within it were put to the sword—the French say, chiefly through the savageness of the English. The English formed the forlorn hope in scaling the breach; and here the veteran mariner Frobisher, the tamer of the Spanish Armada, got his death wound.

The peninsula of Quélern, consumed on both sides by the ever-restless waves, exhibits a fringe of notched and jagged rocks, which, as they become undermined by the ocean, are constantly giving way. Immense fissures are formed every year in the ground above, and are followed by numerous landslips. These bare and exposed promontories, covered with heath and cut up and corroded by the waves, were the chosen site of the worship of the Druids, and abound in those curious Celtic remains called Druidic stones.

l. The ruins of *Daoulas Abbey* (in Breton Mouster-Daoulaz, the monastery of the 2 murderers), chiefly of the 15th cent., with earlier portions in the round style, have been well restored; fine porch; founded in 1173 by Guyomarch V., Viscount of Léon, in expiation of the murder committed by him and his son two years before, of his brother Haruon, Bishop of St. Pol de Léon. Near this are the quarries of the Kersanton stone, so much used for the churches of Brittany.

rt. The inlet of Châteaulin is next entered, bending round the projecting

promontory Landevennec, on which are ruins of a church attached to a once celebrated Abbey, the Breton Chartreuse, which was destroyed at the Revolution, and its valuable charters and MSS. sent to Brest to be made into cartridges for the artillery.

The banks of the inlet, now contracting into a river, are picturesque, but the course of the stream is very winding.

Port Launay, where the Brest steamer brings to, is 2 m. from the Rly. Stat.

There are many slate-quarries on the banks of the river near to

17 m. *Châteaulin* Stat. (*Inns:* H. Grande Maison; none good.) A dirty town of 3259 Inhab., in a pretty park-like valley, having a bridge over the Aulne, and a castle in ruins on a rock behind it.

Omnibus to Port Launay, 2 m. *Excursion* to the marine cave of Crozon, 20 m. on the road to Camaret, described under Brest (Rte. 36).

[At *Pleyben*, a town of 5289 Inhab., 7 m. N.E. of this, on the road to *Carhaix* (omnibus daily), is a fine *Church*, remarkable for the combination of the Gothic with Renaissance style, surmounted by 3 towers. At the base of the principal one is a well-preserved sculptured portal, bearing inside of it statues of the 12 Apostles; the windows are adorned with painted glass. On the Place, near the W. front of the ch., is a *Calvaire* resting on 4 arches, on the sides and the top of which our Saviour's passion is represented in bas-reliefs and statues, more than 120 in number, not ill executed, especially the drapery. Date 1670.]

The rly. here quits the valley of the Aulne. From here the line traverses a dreary track, the W. prolongation of the Montagnes Noires, passing by

7 m. *Quémenéven* Stat. to

11 m. **Quimper** Stat. (*Inns:* H. de l'Epée, fallen off, on the Quai; H. de France, good; H. de Provence). This capital of the Dépt. du Finistère, Pop. 12,532, bears the stamp of antiquity as much as any town in Brittany, and is still partly surrounded by the walls and watch-towers erected for its defence by Pierre de Dreux, who, though a bishop, was also a great captain in his time. The **Cathedral* rears its stately W. front, with a deep sculptured portal, rich in foliage, like that at Le Folgoet, overlooked by the equestrian statue of King Grallon, between two handsome spired towers, rebuilt 1858, by a penny subscription, from the designs of M. Viollet-le-Duc. It is a large and fine edifice of the 14th cent., and has a polygonal apse, with outer aisles, side chapels, and a chancel inclining to the N., not on a line with the nave. The interior is of a stately height; has a fine trefoil-headed triforium, and a clerestory retaining some good old glass; in the S. aisle is a curious grated niche. The pulpit is carved and gilt, a good Renaissance work.

The best and most modern houses line a quay on the rt. bank of the Odet, which flows through Quimper in the form of a canal. On its l. bank stands the Préfecture, fronting a sort of Champ de Mars, behind which a tall and steep hill rises, covered with a hanging wood, cut into terraces and zigzag paths, forming an agreeable public walk, leading to the top, whence there is a fine view of the river, which expands greatly below the town.

Quimper is an agreeable residence, and trout-fishing may be had in the neighbouring streams: the surrounding country is pretty and the inhabitants very primitive. A *pardon* or fête, a wedding, or even the Saturday market, is well worth seeing, on account of the picturesque costumes. There is a Welsh Baptist mission ch. here.

Excursions from Quimper:—

(a) The picturesque manoir of *Coat Bily*, a little to the rt. of the road to Châteaulin (date 1517); the elegant and well-preserved chapel of *La Mère de Dieu*, 16th cent.

(b) The *Moustoir*, an ancient fortified mansion on the way to Concarneau.

(c) *Diligence* to (12 m.) *Pont l'Abbé*. (*Inn:* H. Duhamel), a town of 5000 Inhab., 3 m. from the sea. The *Ch.* is of the 14th cent., with fine rose-windows and well preserved cloisters. Thence to 3 m. *Loctudy* Romanesque *Ch.* (M. H.), partly of the 12th cent., with remains of an earlier edifice. The

semicircular vaulting is peculiar. By ferry to the *Ile Tudy* and to the modern Renaissance château *du Cosquer* and the villa *Pérennore*, thence to (18 m. from Quimper) *Penmarch*, a town of 2500 Inhab., with the *Ch. of St. Nonna* (M.H.) of the 16th cent., and by the ruins of the *Ch. of St. Guénolé* of the 15th cent., to the bare rocky promontory *de la Torche*.

(d) *Pointe du Raz, Audierne*, and *Douarnenez*. Those who can spare the time may make a round of 2½ or 3 days thus:—1*st day*, Quimper to Penmarch — sleep at Pont l'Abbé. 2*nd day*, to *La Pointe du Raz;* be sure *to walk round* the promontory, a ¾ hour's walk, the fine scene of the tour—returning, sleep at Audierne. 3*rd day*, return to Quimper by Douarnenez.

A vehicle must be hired at Pont l'Abbé for *Audierne* (H. du Commerce, clean) and the *Pointe*, or *Bec du Raz*, a storm-beaten promontory, surmounted by a lighthouse, which, though nearly 270 ft. above the sea, is constantly covered by the spray during tempests. The spot has the most sublime grandeur, not surpassed by any scene of the kind in France, and bearing comparison with the sea-cliffs on the W. coast of Ireland and the precipices of a Norwegian Fjord. The sea around is always tempest-tossed, and the shore of the Baie des Trépassés, so called from the number of dead bodies washed upon it, is perpetually covered with wrecks.

The road from Audierne passes by (3 m.) *Pontcroix* (*Inn:* H. Sergent), a town of 2500 Inhab., with fine Romanesque *Church*, richly carved portal, to *Douarnenez* (*Inns:* H. du Commerce, H. des Voyageurs). N. of the town, 1 m. distant, is a fine sandy beach and excellent bathing station. *Douarnenez* is a town of 7200 Inhab., on the fine bay of the same name. It is a cheap place as far as living is concerned, and in a most retired corner of La Basse Bretagne, where the Breton language is almost exclusively spoken. *Diligence* in about 3 hrs. to (14 m.) Quimper. At *Poullon* are 3 menhirs.

The rly. from Quimper to Quimperlé has been carried round the flanks of the hills, instead of over their tops; [but pedestrians should take the coast road, passing through the old walled town of **Concarneau* (*Inn:* H. des Voyageurs—fair). Pop. 5000. 9 m. from the Rosporden Stat. (*Diligence* in correspondence with the trains.) Some 13,000 persons are connected with the sardine-fishery here. A large quantity is sold fresh, packed in dry salt, in little baskets made of rushes, and a good deal is pressed in barrels; but the greater quantity is cured by being gutted, beheaded, sorted into sizes, and washed in sea-water, then dried on nets or willows, after which the fish are plunged, two rows deep, arranged on wire gratings, into a caldron containing olive-oil, over a furnace. They are then packed in tins, and soldered, after which the boxes are boiled in a steam chest. There is a large pisciculture establishment here, and numerous Celtic monuments. Near Trégonnec is a large *Rocking-stone* (Men dogan); to the l. is the *Castle of Rustephen*, 15th cent.—a pretty little village (H. du Lion d'Or). *Pontaven* is a very primitive Breton village on the road.]

13 m. *Rosporden* Stat., on the borders of a large pond. *Diligence* to Concarneau (see above.)

7 m. *Bannalec* Stat.

8 m. *Quimperlé* Stat. (*Inns:* H. Lion d'Or, comfortable and reasonable; H. Racine, good), seated amidst hills, on a brawling river, the Ellé. It is a pretty town of 6863 Inhab. The large mass of building on one side of the Place, now serving as *Mairie*, &c., was originally a convent of Benedictines, attached to which is the interesting circular *Ch. of Ste. Croix*, which, having fallen some years ago during repairs, has been rebuilt on the original plan.

The *Church of St. Michel*, on the top of the hill, is Romanesque, with Gothic additions of the 12th and 15th cents.

The rly. on leaving Quimperlé proceeds to

8 m. *Gestel* Stat., and from which to

5 m. **Lorient** Stat. (Buffet) (*Inns:* H. de France, H. du Cygne, both good; H. des Etrangers). There is

nothing remarkable in Lorient, a dull modern town of straight streets and 37,655 Inhab., save its *Dockyard*. It is fortified, and stands in the angle between two creeks, one of which, the estuary of the Scorff, forms the port militaire, the other the port marchand. They unite below the town, where they are met by the estuary of the Blavet from the E., and expand into the Roads; but as the dockyard occupies nearly the entire margin, and is surrounded on all sides by a high wall, all view of the water is excluded from the town. An excellent bird's-eye view of the dockyard may be obtained from the top of the tower of the parish church.

At the entrance of the *Dockyard* is the house of the *Préfet Maritime*, or Port Admiral. The adjacent buildings are part of those erected by the "Compagnie des Indes Orientales," whose establishment here, 1666, converted into a town a previously obscure village. The company was dissolved 1770. Law of Lauriston, the South Sea schemer, occupied the house which is now the *Préfecture*. Near to it stands a narrow look-out tower 180 ft. high, called le Phare, overtopping all other buildings, affording a view of the whole roadstead, and of the coast; near this is a small astronomical observatory. Lorient is almost exclusively a building port. There are 15 or 16 building-slips (cales) at the Chautier de Caudan on the opposite side of the Blavet. A fine dry dock was finished 1862. A *Foundry* near to the masting-shed, 2 large mast-houses, and very extensive workshops, with steam-engine and machinery for building iron vessels, have been erected.

The roads open out at the lower extremity of the creek which forms the port: they are partly dry at low water. Lower down is the Ile St. Michel, covered with the yellow buildings of the Lazaret, and beyond it, on a projecting point, the fortress of *Port Louis*, commanding the entrance of the harbour, heavily armed. Napoleon III. was shut up in it after the attempted rising at Strasbourg.

The estuary of the Scorff is crossed by a beautiful *Iron Bridge*, 360 yards long, on leaving Lorient.

5 m. **Hennebont** Stat. (*Inn:* H. de France, best; H. du Commerce, second-rate), an antique town, 5112 Inhab., prettily situated on the l. bank of the Blavet. It is one of the chief corn-markets in Brittany. Its name will be familiar to all who have read Froissart, for the noble defence it made in the succession war of Brittany in 1342, during two sieges sustained by Jeanne de Montfort against the armies of Philippe de Valois and Charles de Blois. The capture and imprisonment in Paris of Jean de Montfort would have ruined his cause in Brittany but for his heroic countess, who, possessing the courage of a man and the heart of a lion, threw herself into Hennebont, strengthened its works, filled it with provisions, and animated the courage of the garrison and inhabitants to resist to the last extremity. To marshal troops, to lead them to the onset, to fight hand to hand armed cap-à-pied with sword and casque, to manage a war-horse with the skill of the most adept cavalier, to preside in council, or dictate treaties; such were the accomplishments of this noble lady. Several times did she sally forth at the head of her troops to assail the enemy, and on one occasion set fire to his camp; and when the besiegers turned round to defend it in such numbers as to cut off her retreat into the town, she forced her way through them and effected her escape to Brest, whence, after beating up the country around for 5 days, she returned in triumph to Hennebont. At length the last extremity arrived; provisions were nearly exhausted, her counsellors advised surrender, and articles of capitulation were drawn up. She was forced unwillingly to consent to yield, provided at the end of 3 days succour did not arrive from England. On the eve of the 2nd day, as she was gazing from her watch-tower, she perceived the English fleet, which had been detained by contrary winds, entering the mouth of the Blavet in full sail, bringing

the brave Sir Walter Manny, with a strong force of English knights and archers, and plenty of provisions. All thoughts of surrender were now abandoned; and, after one or two successful sorties, the siege was raised. Two years after this, Edward III. landed here with an army of 12,000, which laid siege to Vannes. In 1375, however, the town was taken by Duguesclin, and the English garrison put to the sword, except the commanders Wisk and Prior, who were reserved for ransom. The only relics now remaining in the town from that period of bloodshed are a portion of the town-wall on the side of the river, and a picturesque pointed *gateway* which led to the castle, between 2 very massive round towers, now a prison. The *Church* is said to have been built by the English; it is unfinished, and only remarkable for a lofty and elegant portal, recessed and fringed, not unlike that at Harfleur, surmounted by a crocketed steeple. There are some picturesque old houses here.

A dreary country of moor and heathland is crossed on quitting Hennebont, and the line from St. Brieuc through *Pontivy* (Rte. 37) is joined before reaching

16 m. **Auray** Junct. Stat. (Buffet) (*Inns:* Grand H. du Pavillon, clean, good and cheap; carriages may be had; H. Poste). A town of 4900 Inhab., on the Auray; containing some good examples of the sombre overhanging houses of the 17th cent., but chiefly important as the best starting-point for visits to the antiquities of *Carnac* and *Locmariaker*. The view from the "Belvedere" above the town is one of the most pleasing in Brittany. Good fishing and shooting about Auray.

The Castle of Auray, no part of which is now standing, is said to have been founded by King Arthur. A battle fought under its walls, 1364, settled the succession to the dukedom of Brittany in favour of young De Montfort, son-in-law of Edward III., who owed the victory to his English allies, under Sir John Chandos. In the opposite ranks fought Duguesclin, who was made prisoner by Chandos, and Olivier de Clisson, who lost an eye in the battle. Charles de Blois was slain in the thickest of the fight, and there fell on his side not less than 5000 men, while the English lost a comparatively small number.

Steamer from Auray to Nantes, touching at *Belle Isle*. (*Inn:* H. de France.) This island was captured by the English, under General Hodson and Admiral Keppel, in 1761. Fine coast view from the *lighthouse*, the masonry of which was contracted for by Gen. Trochu's father, who is buried in the ch.-yard. In the Citadel is a state prison. Near the village of Bangor are two Menhirs, Jean and Jeanne de Runells.

[*Excursions* from Auray:—

a. To Carnac; *b.* Locmariaker and Gâvr Innis; *c.* Quinipily (?); *d.* Chartreuse. Those who are not pedestrians will do well to make separate excursions to Locmariaker and Carnac, devoting to each a day; hiring a carriage (8 to 10 fr.) from the Inn at Auray to go and return.

a. To *Carnac*, 9 m.; good road. The road from Auray cuts through one group of the standing stones at Maenac about ½ m. short of Carnac. The various groups stretch across the country E. to W., with gaps between, nearly 7 m.

"In order to obtain a correct view of the Carnac monuments with the least amount of walking, the visitor coming from Auray had better leave his carriage when he first sees the central group of stones at Kermario, and then proceeding E. visit the group at the farm of Kerlescant. Returning from this to Maenac ("the Stones"), at the other extremity (1 m. from Kermario), he will obtain a complete knowledge of the form of the monument. This he will find consists of three great groups or phalanxes. The first, beginning on the east near Château du Lac, runs nearly due E. and W. for about 2000 feet to Kerlescant. At first the stones are so few and so far apart, as well as so small, that it is impossible to say where the arrange-

ment begins; but as we approach within about 1000 ft. from Kerlescant, some regularity is perceptible; the stones become larger, and at last terminate in 11 well-defined ranks of stones 10 or 12 feet high, as an inclosure called *Le Bal*. This is a rectangular area measuring about 250 by 150 feet, bounded on the east by the 11 ranks just mentioned, on the north by a long tumulus, or barrow, and on the two other sides by a wall of upright stones about 6 feet high placed nearly in juxtaposition.

"Leaving *Le Bal*, very few stones can be traced for a distance of nearly 2000 feet. The few that exist are scattered here and there, are so small, and are so irregularly spaced, that they would not be remarked by any one passing over the plain and not looking for such objects. About the windmill of Kermario order is again perceived; and as we rise the hill beyond they gradually increase in size and regularity, till at the farm we again find 11 ranks of large stones 12 to 16 feet in height. As before they terminate abruptly, but this time, instead of a square inclosure, a large and important Dolmen is the object in front. The whole distance from Le Bal to the Dolmen is about 4000 feet: the direction S.W.

"Still proceeding S.W. there are no stones, and apparently never were any, for more than 1000 ft. In the next 1000 there are a few solitary menhirs, but so irregularly spaced that it is impossible to trace any order among them. Reaching the bottom of the valley, however, where the road from Auray crosses the monument, they become more frequent, and as we rise the hill they again become regularly ranged into 11 ranks, and increase in size till they abruptly stop at *Maenac*. This is the finest group of the whole, some of the stones being nearly 18 feet in height, and as many in circumference. This third phalanx terminates in front of a circular inclosure the exact alignment of which it is somewhat difficult to follow, owing to the village being built within it, but it appears to have been described with a radius of about 200 feet; the segment remaining being about 400 N. and S., and 250 E. and W. From the Dolmen to the circle is about 4000 feet—the whole monument being thus somewhat under 2 English miles in length.

"Having completed his survey of the great stone monument of Carnac, the traveller should then visit *Mont St. Michel*, a cairn or mound of loose stones surmounted by a chapel, and commanding a general view over the waving lines of stones, the Peninsula of Quiberon, and the sea. About ½ m. N.E. of Mont St. Michel some very interesting Roman remains, including a perfect house, a small private temple, and a bath, were excavated in 1875 by the energy of Mr. Milne, a Scotch antiquary. Specimens of the decorations found on the walls and ceilings, &c., may be seen in the small but interesting collection of antiquities kept in the Mairie of Carnac (fee ½ fr.) From the Mont St. Michel to Carnac is ¼ of a mile, when the traveller will rejoin his carriage."

Carnac, 9 m. from Auray. (*Inns:* H. des Voyageurs (Lautram), homely, but good and comfortable; horse and chaise may be hired here for driving to neighbouring places; H. Rio, poor and dear.)

"Leaving Carnac village, the traveller may next proceed to Plouharnel and Erdeven, visiting on his way the great dolmen of Courconno, which is one of the finest in the neighbourhood. It is situated on the right hand of the road, about half-way between the two last-named places.

"The monument at Erdeven, about 5 m. N.W. of Carnac, is similar in many respects to that at Carnac, but on a much smaller scale. The 11 rows of stones can in some places be clearly made out, but the whole width does not exceed 200 feet, whilst at Carnac their average width reaches from 300 to 350 feet, and, except at the west end, the stones at Erdeven are very much smaller. The disposition of the monument is also different. In the centre is a circular hillock, probably in part artificial, or at least artificially shaped, on which stand two dolmens of no great importance. The monument passes along the southern

COUNTRY NEAR ST. ANNE D'AURAY, CARNAC, LOCMARIAKER, AND VANNES.



face of this, but here the stones are so small, so irregularly spaced, and so far apart, as hardly to attract attention, and many, no doubt, are natural stones *in situ*. Proceeding eastward they increase in size; and where they terminate in front of a large tumulus, they assume a regularity and size approaching that of Carnac.

"Proceeding W. from the central point, in many places all trace of the stones is lost; but again they reappear, sometimes in regular rows, till, when approaching the road between Erdeven and Plouharnel, they assume an imposing appearance. Their disposition at this point, however, is so irregular, that it is impossible to make out what the original plan may have been. Many have fallen. The principal group has been cut through by the road, and an irregular straggling group proceeds northward, which has no apparent connection with the principal alignment. Some of the stones in the last group are from 20 to 23 feet in length, and measure 5 feet across at base. Their general height is from 12 to 16 feet.

"The whole length of the Erdeven monument is 5700 feet; or more correctly it may be described as two phalanxes, smaller but similar to those at Carnac, each measuring 2600 feet, but their heads turned from each other, instead of following, as at Carnac. Beyond the western head, at a distance of about 5000 feet, on the Erdeven road, is another group, whose plan and destination it is now impossible to make out.

"Besides the two great monuments, there is a smaller one near the village of St. Barbe; two groups at right angles to the southward of the east end of the Erdeven monument, and one about a mile to the westward of the same, near the village of Kerangré.

"In returning from Erdeven to Auray, the traveller should visit the group of dolmens close to the village of "*Plouharnel* and the collection of antiquities, gold collar and bracelets, flint knives, &c., found in one of them, preserved in the Hôtel de Commerce, a comfortable *Inn*, with intelligent landlord. A little farther on there is a fine group of three dolmens on the left-hand, close to the road, and half a mile from these another group of three on the right-hand: both are visible from the road.

"The stones of Carnac may amount to 1000 in number; they are of the granite of the country, which in places protrudes bare to the surface. Many of them are white, with long hairy lichens, which seem to be the growth of ages.

"In the present state of our knowledge no very distinct opinion can be formed either as to the date or the purpose of these mysterious monuments. It is certain they were not sepulchral, as no traces of interments of any sort have been found near or among the stones. This may be very well observed where the Auray road crosses the Carnac monument. A large surface has there been excavated among the stones, to obtain materials for the road, and the stones are left on the top of small pillars of sand and gravel. These, it will be observed, are absolutely undisturbed.

"If they were intended for religious purposes, they are unlike any other sacred monument known to us, and no arrangement could be less suited than these parallelitha are for either congregational or processional purposes.

"The remaining hypothesis seems to be that they are military monuments. Nothing could better represent the march of three bodies of troops, the chiefs in front, than the three phalanxes of Carnac; or their battle array better than those at Erdeven.

"There is nothing in history, and hardly anything in tradition, that throws any light on the mystery."—*J. F.*

The monuments of Carnac and the Morbihan Archipelago bear more resemblance to those of the Orkney Islands than to Stonehenge. Some have supposed them to have been connected with the worship of the serpent.

b. To *Locmariaker*—

The *Excursion to Carnac and Locmariaker* may, if pressed for time, be made in one day, provided the traveller can walk 6 or 8 m., the only mode of passing between these two

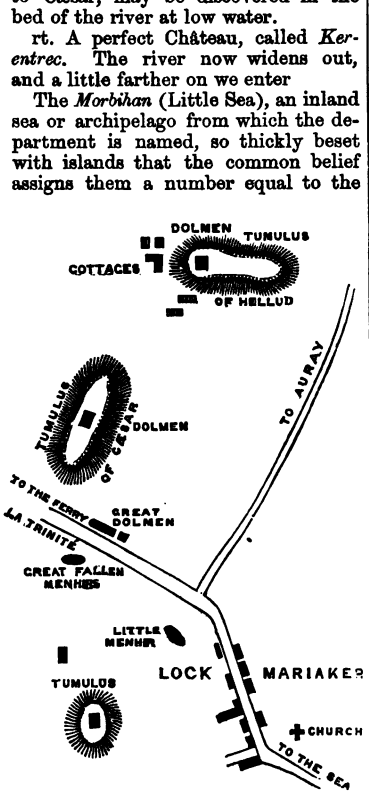
places by land being on foot. If the wind and tide be favourable he may hire a boat for 8 or 10 francs and descend the Auray to Locmariaker. Lubin is an old sailor and good boatman. It is a pleasant voyage, when assisted by the tide, of a little more than an hour. If he visit Gâvr Innis, 1 or 1½ hr. more is required.

In sailing up or down the estuary of the Auray we pass

rt. The *Château de Plessis Kaer*, a Gothic castle, with additions of the time of Francis I., and the ruins of another, called *Rosnarеu*. Near this the boatmen assert that ruins of the piles of a bridge, which they attribute to Cæsar, may be discovered in the bed of the river at low water.

rt. A perfect Château, called *Kerentrec*. The river now widens out, and a little farther on we enter

The *Morbihan* (Little Sea), an inland sea or archipelago from which the department is named, so thickly beset with islands that the common belief assigns them a number equal to the days of the year. The shores on all sides have a most jagged outline, fringed with capes, creeks, and inlets; they are of granite, barely covered with the scantiest vegetable soil, supporting a growth of barren heath; very often the surface is mere bare rock. 2 narrow peninsulas or arms, projecting from the E. and W., separate this gulf from the sea, allowing only a narrow passage between them. This archipelago is very difficult to navigate—a perfect labyrinth of islands, separated by intricate passages which only the experienced navigator can thread. The land rises but little above the sea; the peasantry are miserably poor, and barely win a scanty crop from a soil whose proper productions seem heath and furze.



"Those who go by land to Locmariaker may first visit the *Mané Hellud* or *Mané Lud* (Mountain of Cinders), next the *Dolmen* (Dol er Groach), not far off rises a larger tumulus, *Mané ar Groach* (Montagne de la Fées), also called the *Butte de César*. Passing by some dolmens, we went to the *Dol ar Marchand*, the Menhir, and the sculptured stones. Here we took a boat for *Gâvr Innis*, best worth seeing of all; the boatmen did not encourage a visit to the other islands."

Locmariaker is a poor village. Clean, but very homely quarters can be had at the *Inn*, kept by Mme. Marchand; oysters plentiful here and at Carnac; good boats and steady boatmen for Gâvr Innis, Auray, or Vannes. It stands on a heathy promontory projecting between the ocean and the Morbihan, but is deserted by the tide at low water, so that one must land at a sort of pier a little to the S. of the village.

Within the space of a mile from this village are the following monuments: the *Mané Lud* or *Hellud*, a mound of earth, about ¾ m. N.W. of the village, containing a fine stone chamber, the sides and roof of which are covered with sculptured figures, to a greater extent than any other on the mainland. There is another similar mound to the S. W. called *Mané ar Groach* (Fairy hill) or Butte de Cæsar, containing a stone chamber, in which

were found stone implements, and glass and jasper necklaces, removed to Vannes, and a stone with hieroglyphics still remaining to puzzle the learned. Between these, the most interesting of the stone monuments lie to the N. of the village. Contiguous to the last house is a menhir 25 ft. long, overthrown like most others in this district; a little to the l. on an eminence is a dolmen, the top stone of which is 12 to 15 ft. square, and in parts 3 ft. thick. Still farther to the N. lies prostrate and broken into four fragments, perhaps the largest known *Menhir*. Near to it is another dolmen called *Dol ar Marchand*, the Merchant's Table, larger than any in the neighbourhood; it consists of 2 table-stones, one of them 16 ft. by 12, supported on the points of 3 vertical ones. You may creep under it, and remark the singular figures cut on its under surface.

Locmariaker (i.e. place of the Virgin Mary) is supposed to occupy the site of the ancient *Dariorigum*, the capital of the Venetes: its position agrees with Cæsar's description of their "oppida in extremis linguis, promontoriisque posita." Some substructions of houses and of an arena near the village attributed to the Romans.

Between Carnac and Locmariaker, a walk of 8 m. (2 hrs.; a good road), a frith of the sea penetrates far inland, and is crossed halfway by the Ferry of *Kerispere*, prettily situated, and commanding a view of the little port of La Trinité in the bay of Crach.

The pedestrian should make for Château du Lac and Kerlescant, where the stones of Carnac begin on the E., and should follow them by Kermario, Maenac, and Mont St. Michel, to Carnac. (See above.)

From Locmariaker by all means take a boat (there and back, 10 fr.), and visit the island of *Gâvr Innis* (Goat Island), about 2 m. distant to the E., at the entrance to the Archipelago of Morbihan. It is of granite, about ½ m. long. Its highest point is surmounted by a *Tumulus* 30 ft. high and 300 ft. in circumference. A guide, with a light, will show the grotto.

"In the centre of the tumulus is a stone gallery, terminating in a square chamber, the whole measuring internally 52 feet, in a direction nearly E. and W. On the N. side there are 14 upright stones in the chamber and gallery, on the S. only 13. All these are covered with sculptures, or rather engravings, something like the tattooing of a New Zealander, and seem merely ornamental. The only objects that can be recognised are the serpent, and in several cases what appear to be representations of stone axes.

"The roof of the gallery is composed of slabs 12 or 14 feet in length, and the great stone that covers the western chamber measures more than 20 feet in length by 15 or 16 in width. On one side of the chamber, in the central stone, are cut two stone handles, making 3 circular openings into what appears to have been a receptacle for holy water, though antiquaries are divided in opinion as to their use, the popular theory being that the victims were bound to them, for which absurdity it need hardly be added there is not a shadow of authority."—*J. F.*

In the adjoining *Isle aux Moines* is a semicircle of standing stones, also a tumulus.

The traveller, after visiting Carnac, might continue the voyage along the shore to St. Gildas, in the peninsula of Rhuys (see p. 173), and proceed thence by Sarzeau or Sucinio to Vannes.

c. An excursion can be best made from Auray to *Baud* by rail (16 m.). See Rte. 37.

d. In another direction, less than a mile from Auray, is the nunnery of the *Chartreuse*, occupied by the Sœurs de la Sagesse, who direct a school for the deaf and dumb. Attached to the N. side of the church is the *Sepulchral Chapel* erected by the Bourbons to the 952 unfortunate Emigrés and Royalists who composed the ill-advised expedition to Quiberon, Aug. 1795—the greater part of whom either fell there, or were shot by the Republicans on the banks of the Auray, at the spot called *Le Champ des Martyrs*,

marked by a small *Grecian Temple* not far distant from the Chartreuse, approached by a dark avenue of pines. A sarcophagus adorned with bas-reliefs bears the names of the fallen. Their remains are in a vault underneath, which is shown to visitors by letting down a lighted taper into it.

The village of Brech, 3 m. above Auray, was the birthplace of George Cadoudal, the most active leader of the Chouans. Morbihan was the centre of their insurrection.

The *Peninsula of Quiberon* stretches 10 m. S. into the sea, to the W. of the village of Carnac. Its name is associated with melancholy recollections of the ill-contrived and ill-executed expedition, consisting of 6000 French emigrants in the pay of England, who were landed there from a British fleet 1795, and, after a futile attempt to break through the Republican armies opposed to them, were for the most part shot down, or driven into the sea by General Hoche. The surprise, by Hoche, of Fort Penthièvre, which guards the neck of the peninsula, and of which the émigrés had made themselves masters on first landing, decided the fate of the expedition. Sombreuil, their brave leader, when expelled from it, drew up his little band on the farthest extremity of the sand, where they made the most determined resistance, so as to call down the admiration of their antagonists and fellow-countrymen. Humbert, the republican general, advanced with a flag of truce, and promised that their lives would be spared if they laid down their arms. A storm prevented the British fleet rendering them any assistance; one corvette alone for a time checked the Republicans by its destructive fire, and a few of the fugitives were brought off in the boats of the squadron; but many, including women and children, perished in the waves. 4000 were made prisoners, and the greater number shot, after a mock trial, by order of the Convention. 1100 unfortunate men, most of them persons of rank or station, who capitulated on promise of amnesty, with their commander, Sombreuil, were, in spite of that, conveyed to Auray as prisoners of war, and shot there. The descent on Quiberon was an example of the danger of disgrace and failure which England runs by "waging little wars."]

Rail, Auray to Nantes.

There is nothing to note beyond Auray until reaching

2 m. *St. Anne d'Auray* Stat. (*Inn:* H. de France), 2 m. S. of the village is a celebrated pilgrimage *Chapel of Ste. Anne* (1625) and fountain, the Mecca of Brittany, frequented by thousands of devotees from all parts of the province by sea and land to the number of 20,000 or 30,000, who repair hither in Whitsun week, and on the 24th July and 15th Aug. to adore a fragment of a statue of Ste. Anne revealed in a vision to a peasant, Yves Nicolazic, in 1623. The chapel has been reconstructed in the Renaissance style.

10 m. **Vannes** Stat. (*Inns:* H. du Commerce, good; H. du Dauphin, fair; H. de France, new house; H. de la Croix Verte.) This chief town of the Dépt. of Morbihan (Pop. 14,700). the ancient capital of Basse Bretagne, and retaining in its name the mark of the *Veneti*, the great Keltic tribe of Ancient Brittany, whose power was destroyed by Cæsar, is built at the extremity of a narrow inlet, branching out of the Morbihan, and about 15 m. from the open sea. It possesses in an eminent degree the character of antiquity which distinguishes most Breton towns, in its narrow streets, overhanging houses, massive town walls and gates, but has little to detain the traveller. The *Cathedral* towers and one in the centre of the town, called *Tour du Connétable*, because Olivier de Clisson was said to have been confined in it 1387, are the only buildings worth mentioning. The *Museum* of the Société Polymathique du Morbihan, in the Tour du Connétable, contains several Celtic and Druidical remains from the sepulchral monuments of the department.

A good guide-book of the Department is to be procured at Cauderan's book-shop.

The castle into which the Constable de Clisson was entrapped, under pretence of asking his opinion of the new fortifications, by John (IV.) de Montfort (1387), who then locked the door upon him, and loaded him with chains, was the *Château de l'Hermine*, which was razed to the ground in the 16th cent. Clisson owed his life to the forbearance of the governor, Bazvalan, who (like King John's Hubert) pretended compliance with De Montfort's order to murder his prisoner, but, when his master's anger cooled, informed him of his captive's safety. Clisson was not released, however, without paying a heavy ransom. He died soon after.

A sailing-boat with a favourable wind will cross the Sea of Morbihan to Locmariaker, on the way to Carnac in about 2½ hours; but as no conveyances are to be obtained at either, most persons will prefer visiting these places from Auray.

[*Excursion* through the *Promontory of Rhuys.*

The *peninsula* of *Rhuys*, which, with that of Locmariaker, form, as it were, the natural piers separating the Sea of Morbihan from the Atlantic, contains several objects of interest, which can be conveniently visited in a carriage or on foot from Vannes. The road leads by *Sarzeau* (humble *Inn*), an obscure town, but memorable as the birthplace of Lesage, the author of Gil Blas. There is an unusually fine view from the windmill, about 1 m. from Sarzeau, on the road to Arzon. From Sarzeau proceed to the *Castle of Sucinio*, a perfect feudal fortress, built 1260 by John the Red, Duke of Brittany. It has the form of a pentagon flanked by 6 round towers. It was the birthplace of the Constable de Richemont, who defeated the English at Formigny. Returning to Sarzeau, visit next the ruined *Church* of the *Abbey of St. Gildas de Rhuys*, remarkable as the retreat of Abelard in 1125. He narrowly escaped being poisoned by the refractory monks, whose dissolute manners he wished to repress. The remains have been partly pulled down to allow room for enlarging the chapel, but consist of a modern nave, and a very ancient choir in the Romanesque style, terminating at the E. end in 3 semicircular chapels. The walls of the transept are partly of herring-bone masonry. The date of the oldest part of the building is probably 1038. The tomb of the saint is pointed out; an ancient font deserves notice. There is an extensive view of the wild seacoast from the grounds. St. Gildas is about 21 m. from Vannes. The convent is now occupied by nuns, who in summer take families to board for sea-bathing; the men living in the town.

About 3 m. from Sarzeau, to the l. of the road to (2 m. further) Arzon, is the *Butte de Tumiac*, or *Grand Mont*, one of the largest tumuli in France, 70 ft. high and 800 in circumference, and planted near the extremity of the promontory; a dark passage admits the visitor to a small chamber, opened in 1853, when several stone celts, bead necklaces, and human bones were discovered in it. A boat may be hired at Port Navalo for Gâvr Innis and Locmariaker.

Ploërmel (see Rte. 36) can be visited from Vannes by the post-road to Dinan, distance about 20 m.]

The railway from Vannes to Redon and Nantes turns away from the sea, passing through a country of little interest, and abounding in heath and broom, to

7 m. *Elven* Stat. About 2½ m. from the Station, 1½ m. from this village, is the *Castle of Largoet*, the principal relic of which, of later date than the ruins around, was probably erected when the castle was restored, after the model of one in Syria. In the old castle, dismantled by Anne de Bretagne, young Henry of Richmond (afterwards Henry VII.) was shut up for many years, with his uncle the Earl of Pembroke, by Francis II., Duke of Brittany. Fugitives from their own country after the battle of Tewkesbury, they were driven by a storm on the coast of Brittany, and Henry remained a prisoner nearly 15 years, until 1484, when, escaping into France, he

accepted the invitation of friends in England to try his fortune against Richard III. In the churchyard is a curious *Ossuary*.

9 m. *Questembert* Stat. Diligence to Ploërmel, in Rte. 36.

19 m. **Redon** Junct. Stat. (Buffet) (*Inn:* H. Lion d'Or), a town of 6064 Inhab., on the Vilaine, a tidal river up to this point, and navigable for vessels of considerable size, while the navigation is continued by locks above this to Rennes.

The *Church*, originally belonging to an Abbey, is a fine Gothic building of the 14th cent., with a semicircular E. end, and a picturesque Romanesque central tower. The conventual buildings are converted into a college.

The *Château de Beaumont*, in the vicinity of the town, retains 3 towers of considerable antiquity attached to modern constructions. There are extensive slate-quarries near this.

Railway to Rennes (see Rte. 34).

[*Omnibus* to *La Roche Bernard* (12 m.) on the old post-road from Lorient to Nantes, and on the l. bank of the Vilaine, which is there crossed by a *Suspension-Bridge* of iron wire, supported on 2 piers of granite masonry, each approached by 3 lofty arches of granite. The opening between the two points of suspension measures 626 ft., the elevation of the roadway above high-water mark 108 ft. In its general appearance it resembles the Menai bridge; it was constructed under the superintendence of M. Leblanc, an eminent civil engineer.

The road leading to and from the bridge is well engineered, and leaves the town of La Roche Bernard on one side. (*Inn:* a traveller can put up at the Sadler's.)]

Beyond Redon the country is dreary, with few hills. The railway crosses the Vilaine river by an iron bridge, 45 yds. span.

11 m. *St. Gildas* Stat. l. ruined convent of St. G.

7 m. *Pont Château* Stat., through tunnel.

9 m. *Savenay* Junct. Stat. (Buffet). [Branch Rly. W. 16 m. to St. Nazaire (Rte. 47]. Here, on 22 December 1793, the last relics of that daring Royalist army of Vendéan peasants, under Larochejacquelin and Stofflet, which had crossed the Loire 6 weeks before 80,000 strong, now reduced to 8000 or 10,000, made a last stand against the Republicans, but their obstinate bravery was of little avail against overpowering numbers. They fought long after their ammunition was exhausted, even women taking part in the combat, but were at length cut to pieces or made prisoners, 3000 only escaping back into La Vendée.

Glimpses of the estuary of the Loire are seen on the rt.

18 m. *Basse Indre* Stat. On the opposite side of the Loire, are extensive steam-engine works of the Government.

4 m. *Chantenay* Stat.

The approach to Nantes is marked by the number of neat villa residences.

2 m. NANTES (in Rte. 46).

ROUTE 46.

LE MANS TO NANTES, BY ANGERS—RAIL.

Le Mans to	Kil.	Miles.
La Suze	19	12
Sablé	48	29
Morannes	62	38
Tierce	77	47
Angers	97	60
Ingrandes	133	82
Ancenis	153	95
Cholet	158	98
Nantes	175	107

5 trains daily in 4½ hrs.

Le Mans is described in Rte. 34.

The Rly. from Le Mans to Angers runs through a well wooded and tolerably fertile country, following generally the course of the Sarthe, which is crossed at (12 m.) *La Suze* Stat., again at 6 m. *Noyen* Stat., and again at

12 m. *Sablé* Junct. Stat. (*Inn:* H. Notre Dame et du Commerce), "a beautiful little town on the Sarthe, with a château built by M. de Torcy, foreign minister in the reign of Louis XIV. (1696-1715), and nephew

of Colbert, still in the Torcy family. Near Sablé are marble-quarries. Anthracite *coal* is worked at La Ragotène." —*L.* About 2 m. beyond Sablé, half an hour's walk by the river-side, is the *Abbey of Solesmes*, re-occupied by a society of Benedictine monks, who devote themselves to study in this picturesque retreat. The church is remarkable for 4 groups of statues, called *Les Saintes de Solesmes*, inclosed in niches, each surrounded by a rich framework of architecture and sculpture, in a style of Gothic approaching to the Renaissance. The groups of statuary represent, 1. The Entombment of our Saviour; the head of Christ and the figure of the Magdalen are particularly well executed. Above the recess rises a pointed arch decorated with rich foliage; date 1496. 2. Christ disputing with the Doctors; the figures, in the dress of the 15th cent., are somewhat coarse. 3. On the l. of the choir, the Communion of the Virgin. 4. Death of the Virgin, in the N. transept. These sculptures, which appear to be contemporary portraits of the 15th cent., have been attributed to Italian artists. An altar in the S. transept has been lately fitted up with fragments of other statuary found among the ruins of the abbey. The stalls in the choir, carved with the genealogy of Christ, are worthy of notice.

[Branch Rly. W. to *Château Gontier*. (*Inn:* H. de l'Ouest), a town of 7500 Inhab., on the Mayenne. The *Ch. of St. Jean* (M. H.) dates from the 11th cent. There is a ferruginous spring here, and baths.]

After leaving Sablé, the line runs for some distance by the side of the Sarthe, then crosses the wide valley of the Loir, near the junction of that river with the Sarthe, and on approaching Angers fine views are obtained over the wide meadows of the Maine and Sarthe, and the rly. passes near some of the vast quarries of slate, which forms a principal production of the district.

31 m. **Angers** Junct. Stat. (Buffet). Hotel Omnibus from rly. (*Inns:* H. du Cheval Blanc, in the heart of the town, excellent, clean, and well managed: table-d'hote 6 P.M.; H. du Faisan; H. Beudan, on the Quai, good and reasonable.)

This chief town of the Dépt. de Maine et Loire, is situated on the Maine, called Mayenne in the upper part of its course, a little below the junction of the Sarthe with it, and about 5 m. above the influx of the Maine into the Loire. It has 58,500 Inhab. Modern improvements, the formation of a broad quay along the l. bank of the river, the substitution of tall, regular white stone houses, like those of the Rue Rivoli, for the old gable-faced cottage-built structures have greatly innovated upon the thoroughly antique character which Angers previously bore. A broad formal boulevard, planted with young trees, replaces the old fortifications—

"The flinty ribs of this contemptuous town;
. . . those sleeping stones,
That as a waist did girdle it about,
By this time from their fixed beds of lime
Have been dishabited." *King John.*

The "strong barred gates" are all down, and only one tower remains near the upper bridge of those "saucy walls." Black Angers, as it was called from the sombre hue of its buildings of slate, is now like an old coat with a modern trimming: but plunge into the midst of its labyrinth of buildings, scale its steep and narrow streets, many of them inaccessible to wheel carriages, and you will find traces enough of the Angers of olden time, the *capital of Anjou*, and residence of its dukes.

Most of the old houses are timber-framed, their fronts gable-faced, the roofs, and often fronts, covered with scales of slate, which abounds in the neighbourhood and forms the common building-stone, and many of the door and corner posts, the joists and cornices, bear rich Gothic carvings. The most venerable relic of antiquity is the old ** *Castle* (M. H.), at the river-side, close to the bridge. The whole of the tops of the towers were taken away, and the building reduced to its present even level by Henry III. of France in 1585. Its walls were originally washed by the waters of the Maine, until its moat was partly filled to make room for the new

quay. If its size and preservation be jointly considered, it is perhaps the finest feudal castle in France. 17 colossal towers surround it; they are 70 to 80 ft. high, close set along the walls, enlarged at the base, and having bands of white stone let into the black rough slate of which they are built, so as to give them the appearance of being hooped. A broad and deep ditch isolates the castle from the town; it is entered by a massive gateway under a portcullis, and within its portal is the furnace where lead and pitch were melted for defence against invaders. This castle was begun by Philippe-Auguste, and completed by St. Louis. It serves at present for a barrack, and dépôt of gunpowder. The part which served as a palace of the Counts of Anjou, overlooking the river, is now in ruins, but shows the architecture of the Renaissance. It stood between the high tower called *Du Moulin*, or *Du Diable*, because the latter was considered the patron of the millers of Angers. From this tower there is a capital view over the town, its spires and other buildings, of the river and its bridges; while a slight glimpse of the Loire also may be gained. There is a neat chapel, now filled with fire-arms, showing, in the delicate tracery of its windows, a good example of ornate Gothic. Beside it is a small building flanked with turrets, restored in excellent taste, in which, it is said, King René of Anjou and Provence was born. In the S. tower, called *La Tour Dix-sept* are the dungeons in which state prisoners were confined. On some of their walls are still the rings by which these victims of Court intrigue were fastened to the rock, and on the floor those of *La Crapaudine*, to which they were bound hand and foot. As late as the reign of Louis XIV. numerous leaders of the Huguenots perished here; the Duchesse de la Force was confined here for 8 months. The last occupants were 1500 Vendean Royalists in 1793, and the leaders of the Marianne Socialist Society, before their removal to Cayenne in 1852. The view from the terrace outside the castle-gate is less extensive, but nearly as good as that from within the walls.

Here, at an angle of the Château on the Boulevard des Lices, a bronze *statue* by David, has been erected to King *René of Anjou*, surrounded by 12 statuettes of male and female worthies of Anjou. Mr. Pitt (afterwards Lord Chatham) and the Duke of Wellington received part of their education under a military tutor at Angers. The Duke was here one year.

The Cathedral of St. Maurice (M. H.), standing nearly N. and S., is everywhere conspicuous from its elevated position and its delicate tapering twin spires, whose effect is somewhat marred by thrusting between them an ugly pavilion, an addition of the Renaissance (1540). The elegant Gothic W. portal, a work of the 12th cent., is remarkable for the richness of the sculptures surrounding it, partly restored by Dantan. On either side are 4 saints, male and female; above, the curved niches are filled with smaller statues, angels, &c., while the tympanum is occupied by the Saviour, surrounded by the attributes of the 4 Evangelists. The workmanship is good, the faces expressive, the draperies elaborate, but the whole displays the stiff Byzantine style of the period. Higher up, in a row of niches, are 8 statues of companions in martyrdom of St. Maurice, later in date (15th cent.) and inferior in execution. On the l. of the entrance, passing from below the carved organ-loft, is an antique *basin* for holy water, of oblong form, in verde antique, supported on lions, a Byzantine work of the Lower Empire; it was brought from the East, and presented by King René. The very long nave, 80 ft. high and 54 ft. wide, stone vaulted, is without aisles (12th cent.), each division of the side wall being a wide pointed arch resting on the ground without pillars, and an upper arch rising from engaged groups of pillars having Romanesque capitals, inclosing a pair of narrow circular-headed windows. The greater part of these windows, as well as those of the nave and choir, are filled with painted glass of the richest

colour (13th century), forming one of the chief ornaments of the sacred edifice. This and other churches in the Angevine style are destitute of triforium or clerestory. Local historians lay great stress on the roof being supported without flying buttresses, but their place is supplied by huge clumsy square piers outside, between each pair of windows and at the angles of the transepts, and retaining the same thickness up to the roof. The choir and transepts are short, the E. end is multangular. In the choir (end of 12th cent.), on the l. in looking towards the apse, is a splendid Flamboyant doorway. Both transepts (1225) terminate with fine wheel-windows, the other windows are pointed, and below these along the wall runs a rich pointed arcade. 8 Dukes of Anjou and Margaret of Anjou were buried in St. Maurice; her tomb was destroyed at the Revolution. The remarkable 14th-cent. *Tapestries* were made at Paris or Arras for King René of Anjou, and were bequeathed by him to the ch. They represent scenes from the Apocalypse, and though much injured during the Revolution, they are still, in point of design, workmanship and number, one of the finest collections in France, of the time. Each piece is on an average about 25 yds. long, and is worked with wool of different colours on white linen, the ground of each alternate design being blue and red. M. Joubert, a canon of the cathedral, devoted many years to repairing and restoring the work.

The adjacent *Bp.'s Palace* (M. H.), a very fine building, end of 11th cent., restored 1862-65, contains a grand *Hall* 80 ft. long, with a flat wooden ceiling, and under it is a vaulted chapel of 2 aisles, carried by circular piers.

Not far from the cathedral is the *Musée*, placed in a fine Renaissance mansion erected by Olivier Barrault, Treasurer of Brittany and thrice mayor of the city (1497-1505), afterwards converted into the *Séminaire*, and added to in the time of Louis XIV., and restored in 1854. Its cloister and winding staircase are examples of latest Gothic. It contains a large collection of mediocre paintings, mostly of the modern French school. Among them is placed a *Vase* of antique Egyptian porphyry, obtained by King René from the East, which for a long time passed for one of the water-pots used at the marriage feast of Cana. It has 2 bearded masks carved on it, and is broken, which is not surprising considering its thinness. Here is a fine marble bust of Napoleon I. by *Canova*, condemned to be broken at the Restoration, but saved by being hidden. One room is filled with casts from the works of the sculptor *David d'Angers*, given by him to his native town. His statues of Guttemberg, inventor of printing, for Strasbourg, of General Foy in a Roman dress, of Armand Carrel in loose pantaloons plaited round the waist, of the Greek girl at the tomb of Marco Botzaris; and his busts of Göthe, Hahnemann the homœopathist, Jeremy Bentham, Lamennais, Paganini, and Humboldt, appear best worth notice.

The Museum of *Natural History*, in the upper storey of the building, is reached by a spiral stair remarkable for its lightness and its groined roof. The collection is well arranged and named. The geology of the department is illustrated in a large series of specimens. Among a few miscellaneous antiquities is the enamelled crosier of Robert d'Arbrissal, founder of Fontevrault, brought from that Abbey; it bears a semi-pagan representation of St. Michael and the Dragon. The shoes of Joanne de Laval, 2nd wife of King René, high-heeled and ornamented with open work; also an aërolite, which fell in one of the faubourgs of Angers 1822, deserve notice. The *Library* possesses some valuable MSS.

Not far from the Musée is the ruined church of *Toussaint*, 13th cent. (formerly attached to a convent), in which have been deposited some mediæval antiquities. Among them are many stone coffins of the Merovingian period, found in 1868 in excavating for the theatre. The curious oblong font is said to occupy its original place. It is an elegant pointed building, and almost identical in style with the E. Eng. It is a cross church without

aisles, with lancet windows, richly cut capitals, and corbels, from which sprung the roof. The E. wheel-window is of a later date.

The massive and stately tower of *St. Aubin*, 12th cent., the upper storey being 13th, has had its top mutilated and surmounted by a conical roof of slate, and been converted into a shot-tower. Not far from it is the *Préfecture*, on the site of the ancient convent of St. Aubin; along the corridor on the l. hand runs a colonnade of florid Norman architecture, of early date, and of elaborate workmanship. The small round arches rest alternately on piers faced with pilasters, and on detached pillars arranged in 2 rows, each 5 deep. All the pillars, cornces, and mouldings of the arches are carefully and sharply carved, very perfect, and no two alike. The mouldings running round the arches consist of bearded heads, animals, fish, &c.—an extraordinary combination of hideous and monstrous forms. In the midst is a circular portal, the lower part of which is sunk rather below the surface of the ground, supported on cut columns of varied patterns, and surmounted by a series of Runic bands, cords, and foliage, each confined to one stone, and radiating from a common centre. Next to this is a double arch ornamented with fresco paintings instead of sculpture, the subjects being Herod on his Throne, the Massacre of the Innocents, the Temple of Jerusalem, and the Nativity and Adoration of the Magi, who are seen on horseback approaching Bethlehem. The style of drawing bears a resemblance to the tapestry of Bayeux; the colours are well preserved. These arches formed part of the refectory of the convent.

The *Ch. of St. Martin*, converted into a store for fagots, and piled up to the roof with them, so as to be scarcely visible, will yet interest the antiquary from its age and structure, though the nave, the oldest part, early in the 11th cent., is nearly destroyed; the rest is probably not older than the 12th and 13th centuries. Its windows are round-headed, long, and narrow. The choir (beginning of 13th cent.) ends in a polygonal apse: a low tower at the crossing. The ch. has no aisles.

At the N. extremity of the town is the *Abbey Church of St. Serge*, remarkable for a choir, very light and airy for its date, the end of the 12th cent. "Six slight and lofty shafts carry a ribbed domical vaulting, and divide the choir into 3 aisles, the central ending in a square *Lady Chapel*. On the outer side of these aisles are 2 shorter aisles on a lower level. Some of the windows are pointed, some circular headed."—*D. T.* On the S. side of the choir is a fine specimen of early glass. The nave is in the late Gothic of the 15th cent.; the old piers having been faced, probably, with later work. In the lower part of the plain square piers at the crossing, belonging to an earlier church, are triple courses of Roman tiles. St. Serge is entered by a vestibule or atrium.

In the same quarter of the town is the *Jardin Botanique*, an agreeable walk under shady trees, behind the *Séminaire*, a vast edifice, and St. Serge.

Among the more interesting specimens of ancient domestic architecture, with which the streets of Angers abound, may be mentioned a corner house in the Place Ste. Croix behind the cathedral, adorned with carvings in wood, fresh painted 1867 ; that called *Hôtel des Marchands* near the central bridge; and another in the Rue Basse du Figuier, known as the *Hôtel d'Anjou*, (M.H.), built by Pierre de Pincé, a public functionary, in 1530. It was purchased by the artist Bodinier, and presented by him to the town, and now contains a public library. It is in the style of Francis I.'s time, with more of Italian than of Gothic in its architecture. The square turrets, or projecting oriels, at its angles are singular. In the Rue St. Laud is a house called *Abrahams*, and another called *Adams* in the Place Neuve, at the end of Rue St. Aubin, deserving notice.

A stone *Bridge* (*Grand Pont*) leads from the Quai Royal to the suburb of *la Doutre* (on the rt. bank of the Maine), where are several buildings deserving notice. The *Abbey Church*

of la Trinité is a Romanesque building of the 12th cent., the W. end and remains of the ruined tower being earlier than the rest. It consists of a long nave without aisles, having in the side walls a series of apsidal recesses under pointed arches. The vaults, which are domical, are 80 ft. high at the W. and 65 at the E. end, an unsuccessful device to give an appearance of greater length. The choir, very shallow, and formed of a central and 2 side apses, is separated from the nave by a wall pierced with a pointed arch, which contracts the view of the high altar, but serves as a support to the *Tower*, which is square below, octagonal above, and very elegant. In a recess on the l. are two old paintings. Here is a finely-carved spiral staircase of wood; every panel contains a different sculpture and composition.

Close to this church, indeed communicating with it, is a second equally ancient and in a nearly similar style, *l'Eglise de Ronceray*, once attached to a nunnery founded in the 10th cent. by Fulk Count of Anjou, who placed under the rule of its abbess the whole suburb. It is now included in the extensive range of buildings forming the *Ecole des Arts et Metiers*. The church serves as a chapel for the students; it is a Romanesque building of 9 bays with circular barrel vault carried by wall piers with finely carved capitals.

On the same side, higher up the river, is the *Hôtel Dieu* or *Hospice de St. Jean*, founded by Henry II. King of England and Count of Anjou. The great hall, begun 1177, finished 1184, almost pure Gothic in mouldings and details, yet lighted by round-headed windows, is a fine apartment, lofty and airy, its groined and pointed roof supported on 2 rows of light pillars. Here the beds of the patients were ranged in rows, the males separated from the females by a low partition. The cloisters between the great hall and the church are partly in the Romanesque style; double pillars support the arches; a round portal with deep mouldings leads into the *Hall*, and another into the *Chapel*, a pretty square building, in the style of the hall, and of the same date. A decayed barn or granary near the hospital, now a brewery, is also about the same date, admirably built, 106 ft. long, with 3 aisles on pillars.

The patients are now transferred to the fine modern Hospice Ste. Marie, beyond the boulevard, where the nurses, as everywhere in France, are Sisters of Charity; the whole kept in perfect order and cleanliness.

There are two French *Protestant* churches in the town.

There is a very antique bridge (*Pont des Treilles*) near the Ecole des Arts et Métiers. At the opposite extremity of the Doutre suburb, below the suspension-bridge, near the road to Nantes, is the vast *Nunnery* of the *Bon Pasteur*, surrounded by high walls. The sisters are chiefly occupied in the education of females.

Very extensive *Boulevards*, planted with trees and lined with handsome houses, the Mairie, &c., occupy the site of the old walls, and communicate with a wide open space for the exercise of troops, the *Champ de Mars*, traversed by the road to Paris; adjoining is the handsome Promenade, or *Jardin de Mail*. The Boulevards extend also round the suburb of la Doutre.

Angers occupies an important position near the mouth of 3 navigable rivers, in a country producing lime, coal, and slate. It is famed for its *nursery* gardens; there are not less than 30 in and about the town.

Railways—To Tours and Orleans, to Nantes, to Le Mans: by Cholet to Bressuire and Niort.

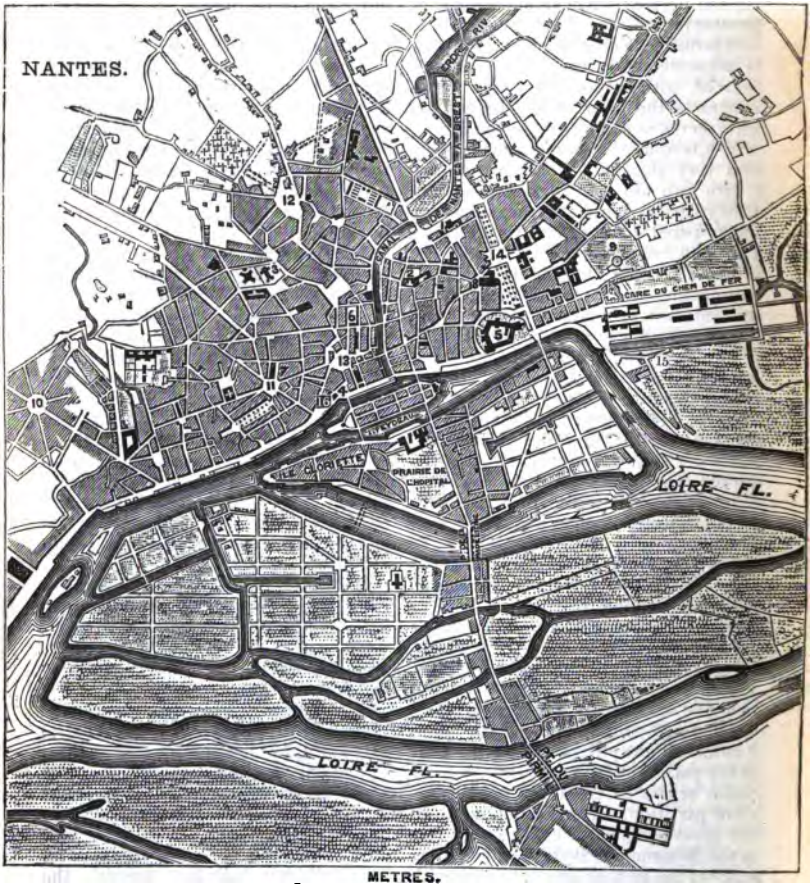
The neighbourhood abounds in *Slate Quarries*, which employ between 2000 and 3000 workmen, and supply a large part of France. They furnish 80 millions of slates, which are exported to the value of 1½ million of francs per annum.

The most considerable of these quarries, *Le Grand Carreau*, is about 4 m. off, to the l. of the rly. to Saumur (Rte. 58). It is 115 yds. (105 mètres) deep, and occupies an area of 4000 mètres. Besides the yawning open excavation, a considerable cavern, approached by a horizontal gallery on one side of the quarry, has been driven under ground.

It is a grand sight, like an underground cathedral. It is approached by vertical ladders, and frail extracting machinery overhangs the precipice. At times serious slips, or *éboulements*, produce dangerous avalanches of rock. In the great floods of 1856 some of the quarries were filled with water, the pumping out of which required several months.

The *Railway* from Angers to Nantes is described under Rte. 59.

Nantes Junct. Stat. (Buffet) *Inns:* H. des Voyageurs, good and moderate; H. de France, Place Graslin, dear; H. des Colonies and du Commerce, good;



1. Préfecture.
2. Hôtel de Ville.
3. Palais de Justice.
4. Bourse.
5. Château.
6. Museum.
7. Theatre.
8. St. Pierre, Cathedral.
9. Jardin des Plantes.
10. Place Launay.
11. Place Graslin.
12. Place de Viarme.
13. Place Royale.
14. Place Louis XVI.
15, 16. Railway Station.

H. de Bretagne, Place du Port-Communeau).

Cabs—The course, 1 fr. 75 c.; the hour, 2 fr.

This ancient residence of the Dukes of Brittany, disputed with Rennes the title of capital of the Duchy, and is now chief town of the Dépt. de la Loire Inférieure: it is situated on the rt. bank of the Loire, at the influx from the N. of the Erdre; the junction of the two rivers being in the centre of the town. The Sèvre (Nantaise) from the S. flows into the Loire a little below Nantes. There are at least 11 bridges over these various streams. It is distant about 40 m. from the ocean, and is a flourishing seaport, the fourth in rank in France, its population numbering 118,625 souls. As a town it is one of the handsomest in France. Its fine *Quais*, extending about 2 m. along the Loire, and on both sides of the Erdre, and the wide open space left by these two rivers, enlivened with small craft, remind the traveller somewhat of the busy aquatic towns of Holland—Amsterdam and Rotterdam, and give a very cheerful character to Nantes, which is, besides, cleaner than most French towns. In the new quarters it has streets lined with houses not unworthy of Paris. The Place Royale and Rue d'Orléans contain the best shops. The old town of crooked streets and crazy houses, which stood on the W. of the Cathedral, was entirely pulled down between 1865 and 1870, and the ground laid out in straight and tolerably wide streets. The Rue de la Juiverie is now about the only old street left.

The most prominent edifice is the *Cathedral of St. Pierre* (M.H.), behind the château, externally an unsightly pile, from the unfinished towers not rising much higher than the roof. The three lofty portals of its W. front, however, are striking for size and the great number of small bas-reliefs and other sculptures adorning them. It was begun in 1434, and finished about the end of the 15th cent. The *nave*, of the same period, "a remarkably fine structure of admirable proportions and great effect, in pure Flamboyant style," is very imposing on account of the great elevation of its roof, 120 ft. above the pavement, and the elegance of its arches; but its windows are destitute of tracery. The *modern* wood-carving in some of the side chapels, and the stone-work of the organ-loft decorated with pendants, a delicate work of the 16th cent., deserve notice. Attached to this noble nave is a plain Romanesque choir, inferior in height, probably of the 11th cent.: it was already inclosed in new walls, corresponding with the nave, preparatory to pulling down the old structure, when the works were stopped for want of funds towards the latter end of the 15th century. The solitary transept on the S. side shows traces of four successive buildings; it contains the splendid *Monument* (removed from the suppressed Carmelite convent) of Francis II., last Duc de Bretagne, and his wife, Marguerite de Foix, raised by their daughter, Anne of Brittany. It is a grand work of art in the Renaissance style, executed by Michel Colomb, a native of St. Pol de Léon, who preceded Jean Goujon. Fortunately secreted at the Revolution, it was thus preserved from destruction. It is a large altar-tomb of marble, black, white, and red. Upon it lie the recumbent figures of Francis and his wife; three angels support their heads, their feet rest on a lion and greyhound. At the four corners are statues of life-size: of Justice, with the sword and scales, said to be a portrait of the Duchess Anne; of Power, strangling a dragon (heresy): Wisdom or Prudence, double-faced, bears a mirror and a compass; and Temperance holds a lantern in one hand and a horse's bit in the other, as attributes. These statues are well designed, the execution delicate, particularly in the draperies. Along the sides of the tomb small statues of the 12 Apostles are ranged in niches, and below them are figures of mourners in coloured marbles. The patron saints of the Duke and Duchess, St. Francis and St. Margaret, stand at their feet, St. Louis and Charle-

magne at their head. The remains of the illustrious dead, for whom this splendid tomb was raised, having been torn up and scattered in 1793, the remains of Arthur de Richemont, Constable of France and Duke of Brittany, who contributed to drive the English out of France in the reign of Charles VII., were deposited in it in 1815. The N. transept and the choir were completed since 1852.

Beyond the cathedral a broad and much-frequented promenade, occupying the site of the old fortifications, and forming a boulevard, extends from the Loire to the Erdre, under the names *Cours St. Pierre, Place Louis XVI.*, and *Cours St. André*. The former is approached by a broad and stately flight of steps from the Loire, and is ornamented with statues of the Duchess Anne and the three Breton heroes,—the constables Duguesclin, Clisson, and De Richemont. Between the two walks stands a *Column* raised to the memory of Louis XVI., and surmounted by his statue; but since 1830 made to commemorate a combat between some young men of the town with the troops of the line, in which 10 of the former were killed, during the July Revolution.

The *Church of St. Nicholas*, from designs of M. Lassus, well deserves attention: it is a grand Gothic edifice, completed at a cost of at least 100,000*l.*, raised by subscriptions. The effect of the interior is much marred by the walls being ruled into squares to imitate stone-work.

St. Clement is also a handsome new Gothic church.

The *Castle*—To see the interior, apply to the concierge; a massive and venerable edifice of the 14th century, partly modernized in the 16th by the Duc de Mercœur during the wars of the League, flanked with bastions, still bearing on them the double cross of Lorraine, stands at the extremity of the Cours St. Pierre, on the margin of the Loire, surrounded on the land side by a deep fosse. Its massive round towers are built of slate and granite: a portcullis still defends its entrance, and the interior contains several constructions of the 16th cent., in the latest Gothic, the windows surmounted with canopies. In one is a curious spiral staircase. Most of the Kings of France, from Charles VIII. downwards, resided for a time within its walls. The explosion of the powder magazine, in 1800, besides other damage, destroyed the *Chapel* in which Anne of Brittany was married to Louis XII., thus becoming for the second time Queen of France. She certainly was born here, and made the castle her residence. In this castle Henri IV. signed the *Edict of Nantes* for the protection of the Protestants in 1598, revoked, to the injury and stain of France, by Louis XIV. In 1654 it was the prison of the Cardinal de Retz, who escaped by letting himself down by a rope from the bastion de Mercœur into a boat moored in the Loire, which at that time, and until the present quai was formed, washed the castle walls. The attention of the sentinel meanwhile was taken off by a bottle of wine given him to drink, and his eye was deceived by the cardinal's red cloak and hat slipped off and hung over the battlements. De Retz, reaching the shore by means of the boat, instantly mounted a horse provided for him by his friends, which, however, quickly threw him and dislocated his shoulder. In spite of this accident and the pain it caused, he rode to a place of safety, the Château de Beaupreau, whence he effected his escape through Spain to Rome. Madame de Sévigné describes her visit to the castle in 1648, shortly after this event. When the railway was made, in order to widen the road, one of the bastions was pulled down, and within it was found one of the old towers, which has since been opened out and repaired: it now forms the S.W. angle of the fortress.

The Duchess of Berri, after having long encouraged disaffection and fermentation in Brittany and La Vendée, was finally detected, Nov. 1832, after a concealment of 5 months within the city, where she had eluded the vigilance of the Police, in the *house No.* 3 *Rue Haute du Château*, facing the

castle, and shown to visitors, which belonged to two ladies, named Du Guigny, zealous partisans of the Bourbon cause. Her presence in this house had been betrayed to the government by a Jew named Deutz, previously a confidant of the duchess and her friends; a party of soldiers and police were despatched thither instantly. They searched the whole building from top to bottom, but found her not. Confiding, however, in their information, a party of gendarmes was left behind to keep watch. Some of them, posted in a garret, remained a whole day beside a fire which they had lighted, when on a sudden they were startled by voices and the sound of kicks, proceeding from an iron door which formed the back of the chimney, and, to the surprise of the soldiers, out scrambled four persons—the duchess, a lady, and MM. de Menars and Guibourg, who had passed 16 hours in a secret hiding-place, entered by a door 20 inches wide. Not only this oppressive confinement, but even the heat of the fire, was endured patiently, and without the slightest noise, until they were nearly suffocated, and the duchess's dress, entirely scorched by the iron door being heated to redness, was on the point of catching fire.

On the surrender of the castle of St. Andrew's in Scotland to the French in 1547, John Knox was taken prisoner and kept at Nantes as a galley slave until the end of 1549.

Nantes possesses a *Museum of Paintings*, far above the average of provincial collections, though a large portion are copies; situated in the upper part of the Cloth Hall, Rue de Feltre, near la Place Royale. The greater part were collected at Rome by M. Cacault, and many more are the bequest of the Duc de Feltre. The heads of Isaiah and Jeremiah are attributed to *Perugino;* Christ bearing the Cross, by *Seb. del Piombo;* Landscape and Vierge aux Rochers, by *Salvator Rosa;* Portrait of a lady, by *Ingres;* some good scenes about Rome, by *Leopold Robert;* the Last Supper, by *Philippe de Champagne;* a Bull-fight, and other cattle-pieces, by *Brascassat*, a modern artist of merit; Paul Delaroche's original sketch for his great work at the École des Beaux Arts at Paris.

The *Library* of Nantes, above the Halle aux Grains, Quai Brancas, contains 48,000 volumes. A MS. copy of the *de Civitate Dei* of St. Augustin, of 1375 is remarkable for its miniatures.

The *Archives*, deposited in the Préfecture, contain a mass of curious documents relating to the history of Brittany; many ancient charters of abbeys, &c., and the trial, in Latin, of that most infamous of criminals, Gilles de Retz, Maréchal de France, who was burnt on the Chaussée de la Madeleine (Rte. 59).

In the *Musée d'Histoire Naturelle*, Rue du Port Communeau, may be seen a collection illustrating the geology of the department, formed by the late M. Dubuisson; besides several fragments of antiquity found in the neighbourhood, and a mummy, presented by the Egyptian traveller Caillaud, a native of Nantes. On the wall of the staircase is stretched the skin of a republican soldier killed by the Vendeans at the siege of Nantes, who (like Zisca) willed it to cover a drum, and so terrify his enemies after his death.

The *Jardin des Plantes*, close to the rly. stat., contains an avenue of magnolias, probably the finest in Europe.

A handsome *Palais de Justice*, in the N.E. part of the town, was finished 1852. The series of archives is very interesting. Amongst them are the minutes of the Revolutionary Tribunal of 1793, kept with great accuracy. On many days appear the name and professions of 100 to 150 men sentenced to death, "pour avoir porté les armes contre la patrie;" on other days 40 or 50 women receive the same sentence "pour avoir suivi les brigands." It is remarkable that Carrier's name does not once appear.

An Arcade called *Passage Pommeraye* leads by a flight of iron stairs from Rue Crébillon to Rue de la Fosse.

The *Quais*, lined on the one side by handsome houses, and on the other fringed with shipping, present a lively scene, and form a noble promenade about 2 m. long. An Englishman,

in traversing them, may remember with some interest that it was at this port that the young Pretender embarked on the expedition of 1745, in a fast-sailing brig, the Doutelle, provided by one Walsh, a French subject settled at Nantes, who accompanied him. He was disguised as a student of the Scotch college at Paris, and for better concealment had allowed his beard to grow.

The Quais were formerly in part planted with trees, forming the general promenade, but the trees have been cut, and the general effect destroyed, in order to allow of the passage of the *railway*, which runs alongthe open quay, and cuts off the town and road from the river. Near the lower end is a building, insignificant in itself, but remarkable for its melancholy associations, and called *Salorges*, built as an entrepôt for merchandise, and still serving as a warehouse. Who has not heard of the *Noyades* and republican marriages; the invention of Carrier, the most detestable, perhaps, of the monsters of the first Revolution, when sated with single murders by the guillotine, and thirsting for more blood, and the excitement of executions on a large scale? It was in front of the Salorges that they took place, and that building served as a temporary place of confinement for the victims, who were dragged hence and put on board barges furnished with a sliding valve or trap-door in their bottom. These boats, when towed into the middle of the river, and deserted by the crews, were sunk with their load of 20 or 30 human beings, by pulling from the shore a cord attached to the valve. To prevent the possibility of escape for the swimmer, or poor wretch who might be cast ashore alive by the current, armed men of the bloody band called Compagnie de Marat, composed of the most abandoned wretches whom the lowest dens in Nantes could furnish, were stationed on the banks to fire on those who rose to the surface, while others, armed with swords, cut off the hands and fingers of such as struggled to reach the boats. As many as 600 human beings perished on one day; the total number of persons thus destroyed has never been correctly ascertained, but 25 of these Noyades or executions by drowning are known to have taken place, and the number who perished has been variously estimated at 6000 or 9000! At first the wholesale butchery was perpetrated at night, but, emboldened by impunity, and supported by a portion of the citizens, almost exclusively of the class of small tradesmen, the tyrants did not hesitate to immolate their victims in broad day. The most atrocious feature in these massacres was the number of women and of young children who were thus consigned to eternity, without having committed any offence, by the exulting savages who then ruled the people's destinies. When a remonstrance was made against the murder of the children, "Ce sont des louvetaux, il faut les détruire,—Ce sont des vipères, il faut les étouffer," were Carrier's answers. The experiment of the Noyades was first tried on 24 priests condemned to transportation (déportation). "Le decret de déportation a été exécuté verticalement," was Carrier's boast. The Mariages Républicains, as another refinement of cruelty was called in mockery, consisted in binding together a man and woman naked, back to back, keeping them exposed for an hour, and then hurling them into the current of "la baignoire nationale," as the bloodhounds termed the Loire. That river, as it were indignant at crimes scarcely paralleled in the history of the world, threw back upon its banks, at each returning tide, the corpses with which it was choked, until the air became pestilential, and its very water and fish poisonous. When Carrier was at length called to account for his crimes, which, however, had been connived at, if not approved, by the Convention a short while before, and asked for proofs of the accusations against him, he was answered, "Vous me demandez des preuves? faites donc refluer la Loire." But these are only a part of the revolutionary atrocities committed at Nantes: to the victims of the Noyades must be

added those who perished by the guillotine, by disease, famine, and terror in the prisons, and, above all, by the fusillades, which took place day after day on the Plaine de Sainte Mauve, where, at one time, 500 children, the eldest not more than 14, were mowed down by musketry, and where deep ditches, dug for the purpose, were filled with corpses heaped confusedly one over the other. The population of Nantes, which amounted in 1790 to 81,000, was reduced to 75,000 in 1800, and would have been further diminished if the surviving population of La Vendée had not taken refuge there. The number who were slaughtered in 1793 belonging to the town and surrounding country is estimated at 30,000. It is painful to describe these horrors, but they form an important episode in the history of Nantes, and that which is here detailed is only a sample; they might be greatly expanded.

The Vendéan war has also left some sad souvenirs at Nantes. In the attack of the town by the Royalist forces on the 29th June, 1793, their leader, Cathelineau, was mortally wounded in penetrating into the *Place Viarme*, now the cattle-market, and his fall was the cause of their retreat. Not far from the same spot another of their leaders, Charette, was shot, at the corner of the Rue de la Miséricorde, in April 1796.

Fouché, the Regicide police minister under Napoleon I., Duc d'Otrante, was born here.

The *New Quarter* of the town, the West End of Nantes, was commenced 1784, by M. Graslin, a fermier-général, after whom the Place containing the theatre is called. The houses are built of white stone from the neighbourhood of Saumur, and are exceedingly handsome, but the effect is much injured by the narrowness of the streets. The old town extended very little way to the W. of the Erdre, and was walled round to the close of the 17th cent.

The commerce of Nantes suffered greatly during the war with England, and did not return after the peace, on account of the loss of the principal French colonies. Since 1840, however, it has more than revived, and Nantes at the present day is one of the most thriving and wealthy towns of France. The construction of docks at St. Nazaire (Rte. 47) has greatly increased the prosperity of Nantes.

The most important business is sugar-refining. There are 5 large sugar-houses; the largest, that of M. Cézard, can refine 60 tons a day. One-fourth of the trading vessels of France are built at Nantes, close to the town and on the islands. There are also some cotton-mills and iron-foundries. Preserved meats, fruits, &c., are also prepared here, and the sardine-curers, though their works are on the coast, have their stores and establishments at Nantes. Much wheat and flour is exported to England; wine and hemp are also exported largely.

The suburb of Nantes on the S. side of the Loire is spread over a series of islands—the principal, the Isle Gloriette, contains the Great Hospital—formed by the branches of that river, connected together by bridges, over which the road to Bordeaux and Clisson passes. The bridge at Nantes is the lowest over the Loire; the river is very shallow. No steamers go through the bridges.

Consuls from Great Britain and the United States reside here.

French *Protestant Church* in the Place Gigant, and English service.

Post Office in the Rue du Chapeau Rouge; *Telegraph* office, Rue St. Julien.

Morel, Rue Crébillon, No. 20, sells views, maps, local guides, &c., relating to Nantes and Brittany in general.

Railways, W. to Brest; S.W. to St. Nazaire, Paimbœuf, Pornic; S. to Bordeaux; E. to Paris. There are 2 *Stations*—the one at the E. end of the city, beyond the Castle, for passengers and merchandize, and another for persons going towards Brest and Nazaire, near La Bourse.

Steamers up the Loire to Angers in 7 or 8 hrs., starting from the Quai du Port Maillard—down the Loire to St. Nazaire; to Bordeaux 3 times a month; to Brest.

Steamer on the Erdre to Nort starts from the Quai Céneray, behind the

Préfecture (Rte. 41)—a pleasant excursion of one day there and back. The valley of the Erdre for the first 10 m. is very pretty, bordered by country-houses, and is the usual resort of the Nantes pleasure-boats.

Environs of Nantes.—The immediate vicinity of the town displays great marks of opulence and prosperity, in its numerous villas, many of them in the English style, and in the number of factory chimneys: in almost every direction the country resembles the S. of England.

About 5 m. S.W. of Nantes extends the *Lake de Grand Lieu:* the shores are flat, marshy, and uninteresting.

The excursion most commonly recommended to a stranger is that to *Clisson*, the Richmond of Nantes, 15 m. S., on the borders of La Vendée, described in Rte. 60. It is a pretty spot, though its beauties have been exaggerated by local enthusiasts.

ROUTE 47.

NANTES TO ST. NAZAIRE AND LE CROISIC—RAIL.

		Kil.	Miles.
Nantes to Savenay	Rail.	39	24
Nantes to Donges	Rail.	50	31
Nantes to Montoir	Rail.	58	36
Nantes to St. Nazaire	Rail.	64	40
Nantes to Guérande		86	53
Nantes to Le Croisic		96	60

This excursion, though out of the usual range of English travellers, can be made with great facility, and exhibits a series of curious and interesting objects in a very primitive region.

St. Nazaire may be reached from Nantes—*a*, by railway in 2 hours; *b*, by steamer twice a day, in 4 to 7 hours according to the tide. From St. Nazaire well-appointed omnibuses reach Le Croisic in less than 3 hours.

a. Nantes to St. Nazaire, by rly. This route is perhaps prettier than that by the river. There is a stat. on the quay near the Bourse for passengers. The rly. passes along the quay, as described in Rte. 46; then leaves the town, and passes through pretty fields and beautiful meadows to

24 m. *Savenay* Junct. Stat. (Buffet) (see Rte. 44). After leaving Savenay the line approaches the river, and passes over a fine meadow region of immense extent, dotted with cattle, to

7 m. *Donges* Stat., on the Loire. A little above Donges is a *menhir*. Beyond Donges the meadows are of still wider range, and on the N. is a vast peat-field called la Grande Brière, which has been worked for ages by a peculiar race of men. Near

5 m. *Montoir* Stat. there is a *dolmen*, estimated to weigh 20 tons.

4 m. **St. Nazaire** Stat. (Buffet) (*Inn:* H. Belay). This place was until 1845 a poor village, but the Government has constructed here a floating-dock of 25 acres, with the view of making it the port of Nantes. The works are very solidly executed in granite, and there is never less than 22 ft. of water in the basin. The larger dock entrance is 82 ft. wide. Another *dock* of double the area is in progress. There is a good and safe roadstead close to it, and there are no dock dues. The church is a very old edifice. The population, which has increased from 10,000 to 18,896, is still rapidly increasing. St. Nazaire, now the starting-place for the Transatlantic steamers to the West Indies and Mexico, is daily becoming more like a French Liverpool; here is a building-yard for iron vessels. The town consists of handsome edifices. Close to the rly. stat. is a large *dolmen*, consisting of several upright stones sunk in the ground and a large flat one resting upon them.

[*b. Nantes to St. Nazaire,* by the river. Tolerably good steamers start from near the Bourse, and perform the voyage in 4½ hours with tide. The river is very broad and shallow, and

intersected by islands : the channel is crooked and difficult, and the attempts to improve it have not met with much success. The banks, not high, are green and well wooded, and there are numerous villages.

About 10 m. from Nantes, on an island in the Loire, is the vast government steam factory of *Indret*, one of the most extensive establishments of the kind in the world. From 2000 to 3000 men are employed here. The establishment is capable of turning out in a year steam-engines complete to the amount of several thousand horse power. There is, however, neither coal nor iron in the neighbourhood, and the place is not well situated for embarking the machinery, which is conveyed in barges to St. Nazaire, and there shipped. The river below Indret is pretty, though the scenery is not striking: country-houses of the Nantais are continually seen near the banks. At *Buzay*, half-way between Nantes and Paimbœuf, a lofty tower, the only remains of the abbey, is seen on the left.

Paimbœuf l. (*Inns:* H. Tremblet ; H. St. Julien), a town of 2900 Inhab., situated on a rocky point at the entrance of the narrow part of the Loire, 30 miles from Nantes, formerly a place of some importance, as large vessels used to discharge part of their cargoes here before going up to Nantes. It is now nearly deserted for St. Nazaire.

Rly. to Nantes and to Pornic, see Rte. 48.

The river below this point widens into an estuary, with numerous shallows and rocks, marked out by stone towers. The steamer crosses over to Donges, and soon reaches *St. Nazaire* (see above).]

On leaving St. Nazaire the road is like an English turnpike one, with hedges on each side: the fields are surrounded even too closely by hedges and hedgerows. *Escoublac*, about 8 miles from St. Nazaire, is a new village, the old one having been gradually buried under the adjoining sand-dunes in the last century. A shorter road has been opened to Croisic nearer the sea, by Pouliguen, but the traveller should follow the old one by Guérande. There is a remarkable view over the salt-works, which the road skirts on l., towards Batz and Croisic before reaching

13 m. *Guérande* (*Inn:* H. du Commerce), very curious old town (6749 Inhab.), still surrounded, except on one side, by the ditches and walls built by Duke John V., about 1431. The four old gateways still remain ; that of St. Michel, on the E., is the finest. The streets and most of the houses remain unaltered from the 15th century, but the effect is much marred by the too liberal use of whitewash. The *Church* is one of the gloomy damp granite edifices of Brittany. The nave is of about the date 1130; the rest seems to be of the 13th. On one of the buttresses at the W. end is what appears to have been an out-door pulpit, reached by an interior staircase. On Sundays the assemblage of peasants from the N., peat-diggers from the E., and salt-makers from the W., is very striking. Soon after leaving Guérande the road descends into a wide plain covered with pits and salterns. This plain, of great extent, is below the level of the sea at high water, and protected by dykes. The water is admitted at high tide into reservoirs called *vasières*, from which it is passed into irregularly formed shallow basins called *fares*. In these a considerable portion of the water is evaporated, and the brine is allowed to run into square reservoirs called *œillets*, where the sun finally evaporates the remaining water and leaves a layer of salt. The salt is scraped off, and is thence carried to a conical heap on the high ground, where it is left without protection from the rain until the autumn, when the heap is covered with mud, and so left until it can be disposed of (annual production above 80,000 tons). The men engaged in the work are called *paludiers*, and receive one-fourth of the salt, the owner of the salterns taking the other three-fourths. The paludiers and their assistants, called *saulniers*, inhabit Batz, Pouliguen, Saillé, and other villages, and

form a most peculiar class. Their usual dress is an enormous black flapped hat, a long white frock or waistcoat, huge baggy white breeches, white gaiters, and white shoes. The men of *Batz* are a magnificent race of large stalwart (evidently) Saxons, and the contrast between them and the surrounding Bretons cannot fail to be remarked. If the traveller should be fortunate enough to see a wedding (usually on Tuesday) or any religious festival at Batz, he will see these magnificent men and their splendid costume to the greatest advantage. Though a hard-working race, they have been always very poor, and it is much to be feared that their salt trade will prove continually less profitable. The ch. of Batz is a granite structure of ancient date; the huge steeple, 200 feet high, was built in 1657. The ch. of N. D. du Murier near it has been ruined by irruptions of the sea. A little beyond Batz is a *menhir* about 8 ft. high. 2 m. beyond Batz we reach

7 m. *Le Croisic* (*Inns:* H. Guillore; Etablissement des Bains, in summer only). This old town has now become a popular watering-place. It was formerly a place of some importance, was fortified, and had a castle; its greatest prosperity was in the 17th cent., when it sent vessels to the Newfoundland fishery, and had some 6000 Inhab., but, like many other towns, was ruined by the revocation of the Edict of Nantes. There are now but 2416, and the walls of old houses may be seen surrounding what are now gardens. There are many old houses in the town, and the granite *Ch.*, built in 1507, is of the usual gloomy character: the tower, 180 ft. high, was built about 1700. W. of the town is a chapel St. Goustan, with a miraculous well near it. When it blows hard from the S. the sailors' wives pray at St. Goustan, when from the N. at the chapel of the Crucifix on the E. of the town. About half a mile N.W. of the ch. is a *menhir*, 8 ft. high, situated on a mound overlooking the sea. The rocky cliffs on the shore near it for about a mile have been worn by the waves and weather into the most fantastic shapes, and will be worth a visit. Two artificial mounds at the extremities of the town form a sort of promenade, and in the summer many bathers resort to the *Établissement*. Le Croisic is one of the principal ports for the sardine-fishery. A long jetty has been built to protect the port. On the opposite side of the harbour is a long dyke, called Chaussée de Pembron, constructed at the beginning of the 18th cent. for protection of the salterns. The harbour is rocky and difficult to enter, and but few vessels resort to it. Good road of 24 m. from Le Croisic to La Roche Bernard.

ROUTE 48.

NANTES TO PORNIC [PAIMBŒUF] —RAIL.

Distance, 31 m.; *time*, 2 hrs.; *trains*, 3 daily.

Nantes is described in Rte 46.

This short Rly. to the coast crosses the Loire, and proceeds S.W. to *St. Hilaire* Junct. Stat. [Branch Rly. N.W. to Paimbœuf, described in the excursion down the river from Nantes, see Rte. 47.]

The line continues W. to

Pornic Stat. (*Inns:* H. de France; H. des Voyageurs), a prettily situated little watering-place (1800 Inhab.) on the shore of the Bay of Biscay opposite the island of *Noimoutier*, and much frequented by the people of Nantes. The town consists of an upper and lower part, connected by steps cut in the rock. Fine quays lining the harbour. Fine view from the restored *Castle*, dating from the 13th cent. A remarkable *dolmen* exists in the neighbourhood.

SECTION III.

ORLÉANAIS.—TOURAINE.—RIVER LOIRE.—LA VENDÉE—POITOU.—SAINTONGE.

ROUTE	PAGE
49 Paris to *Orleans*—RAIL.	192
49A Paris to Montargis, by *Corbeil* and *Malesherbes*—RAIL.	199
50 Rouen to Orleans, by Dreux and Chartres—RAIL.	200
51 Paris to *Sceaux*—RAIL.	200
52 THE LOIRE—*Gien* to Orleans	201
53 THE LOIRE—Orleans to *Tours*, by *Blois* and *Amboise* [*Chambord*]—RAIL.	202
53A Tours to Vierzon, by *Chenonceaux* and Villefranche—RAIL.	216
54 Paris to Tours, by *Châteaudun* and *Vendôme*—RAIL.	217
56 Tours to *Loches* & Châteauroux	218
57 Tours to *Les Sables d'Olonne*, by *Chinon*, *Bressuire*, and *La Roche-sur-Yon*—RAIL.	221
58 THE LOIRE—Tours to Angers, by *Saumur*—RAIL.	224
59 Angers to Nantes—The Loire—RAIL.	232
60 Nantes to Poitiers, by *Clisson*	233
61 Angers to *Niort*—RAIL.	235
62 Nantes to *Rochefort*, by *La Rochelle*—RAIL.	236
63 Rochefort to Limoges, by *Saintes*, *Cognac*, and Angoulême—RAIL.	238
63A Rochefort to Bordeaux, by Saintes, *Pons* and St. Mariens—RAIL.	240
64 Tours to Bordeaux, by *Poitiers* and *Angoulême*—RAIL.	241
65 Poitiers to St. Sulpice Laurière, by *Montmorillon* (*St. Savin*)—RAIL.	252
66 Poitiers to *Rochelle* and *Rochefort*—RAIL.	253

INTRODUCTORY SKETCH OF THE COUNTRY.

ARRIVED on the borders of the Loire, which divides France nearly in the centre, the traveller already finds himself amidst sunny landscapes, under the influence of the more genial climate of the south. The provinces bordering on that great river—Touraine, Orléanais, Anjou, Poitou—have been styled "the garden of France;" and the golden vineyards, the blooming orchards, the yellow cornfields (especially those of La Beauce, the granary of France), and the acacia hedges bear testimony to the facile bounty of Nature. But little pains have been taken to improve her gifts; an ornamental garden or pleasure-ground is rarely seen: the earth seems to bring forth abundantly with less than the average amount of painstaking: "c'est le pays de rire et de ne rien faire." The Loire, which forms its chief feature, is decidedly inferior in beauty to the Seine. In Touraine its banks are flat and monotonous, and it is only after passing Tours that it becomes really picturesque. Near Saumur it is a romantic stream; and from thence, with slight interruptions, nearly all the way to Nantes, the "considerable boldness of its banks, the richness of the culture, the wooded islands, and the animation derived from the swelling canvas of active commerce, conspire to render it eminently beautiful: but for the rest of its immense course it exhibits a stream of sand, and rolls shingles through the valley instead of water."—*A. Young.* "Quel torrent révolutionnaire que cette Loire!" was the expression of the democrat Barrère: and the unbridled impetuosity of its course, its sudden inundations and changes of bed, justify the epithet, and are as detrimental to the utility as to the beauty of this main artery of France. The inundations of the Loire in October (18th

and 19th) 1846 were most extensive and disastrous. It burst through the Levée or dyke in several places above and below Orleans, spreading over the plain round Orleans to an extent of 39 kilomètres; while in the streets of Orleans the water rose 5 mètres. 100 barges, with bargemen, were sent from Paris to assist the inhabitants of the city and neighbourhood, isolated by the flood. The inundations of June 1856 were still more terrible. The country was laid under water, and the crops destroyed, for hundreds of square miles. Houses were destroyed, and fields either stripped of their soil, or covered with shingle and rubbish. In winter and spring the Loire rages, and swells, and has too much water, just as in summer it has too little. Its broad shoals greatly disfigure the landscape; its shallows and sandbanks render the passage of steamers intricate. Navigation is limited to very small vessels, and is frequently arrested in the dry months. The cave dwellings excavated in the cliffs of soft chalk (craie tufeau) along the river-banks, and the long Levée or dyke raised to protect the right bank between Blois and Angers, a distance of 96 m., from inundations, will be remarked as peculiar features in the borders of the Loire. The course of the Loire from Orleans to Nantes is productive of much interest, partly derived from its venerable cities, gloomy castles, and the great events in French history which have passed upon its banks.

These provinces of France, especially Touraine, were the chosen residence of her kings (les Valois) down to Louis XIV., and they afford a hundred sites preferable to the sands and morasses of Versailles. The vast and castellated Chambord, bristling with turrets and pinnacles, studded with Diana's crescent, where the Emperor Charles V. was entertained by his good-natured enemy Francis I.; the gloomy Blois, haunt of bigotry and scene of the deep-plotted assassination of the Guises; Amboise, the favourite abode of the warrior Charles VIII., and also witness to conspiracy and wholesale massacre; Chenonceaux, the retreat of Diana of Poitiers; Plessis, the den of the timorous bigot Louis XI.; Chinon, where passed the careless revelry of the indolent Charles VII., and the opening scene of the wondrous career of "the shepherd girl of Domrémy;" Fontevrault, the last resting-place of the lion-hearted Richard; Loches, with its dungeon of sighs and tears, a provincial Bastille, contrasting with more agreeable recollections of the beauteous and gentle Agnes Sorel; Dampierre, where Margaret of Anjou's life and sorrows terminated; and Nantes, which saw Henri IV. put his hand to the edict of toleration, and in later times witnessed the heroism and frailty of a daughter of the Bourbons, his descendant:—all these are national monuments—integral portions, as it were, of French history. It is a region of interesting associations and recollections: here Joan of Arc first unfurled her victorious banner; here the chief events of the contests of religion in the 16th century occurred; this soil is watered with the blood of Guise and Condé; the fields of La Vendée are fattened with the unburied bones of the thousands who fell in the defence of Royalty, and in opposition to irreligion and revolution.

All the places above alluded to well deserve to be visited by the traveller. Orleans, though retaining few traces or relics of the Maid; Blois and Amboise; Tours, a fine city, though seated amidst dust and glare; Saumur, once the stronghold of Protestantism; Loches, for its architectural remains and historical souvenirs, and pleasing situation in the charming valley of the Indre; black Angers, cradle of our early Plantagenet monarchs—all abound in specimens of ancient architecture, all possess more or less claims to attention. Chénonceaux is a charming specimen of the old French château, with turrets and extinguisher spires; without, all crinkum-crankum—and within, lined with tapestry and armour; preserved unimpaired, and well kept up. Azay-le-Rideau is nearly as perfect and beautiful, but with less interesting associations.

S. of Nantes, between the Loire, the sea, and the Sèvre Niortaise, lies *La Vendée*, celebrated in the history of the wars of the Revolution for its adhesion to royalty and opposition to innovation. The framework or foundation of that

country is composed of the elevated plateau of the Gatine, whose crest is in no wise distinguishable, and which presents a series of hills, furrowed by narrow glens or valleys, through which run a few muddy streams. "It is an inextricable complication of heaths, brooks, heights, hollows, and little plains having no connection with one another, and apparently no general watershed. It is covered with trees, yet has no forests; every field, every dwelling is surrounded by quick hedges, abounding with close-set trees, and surrounded by ditches, forming complete natural redoubts. The original lines of communication from place to place are hollow ways, cut so deep below the surface of the ground that a man's head in walking along them will not appear above it, and their vertical sides are surmounted by hedges. They are narrow, shady, and muddy or rutty, according to the season, and intersect one another so as to form a multitude of crossways, looking all like one another. Previous to 1840 there were few high roads, no large towns; the villages are scattered and thinly inhabited, estates very much subdivided, houses concealed by trees and bushes, and a peasantry of primitive and rude manners. These were the combination of circumstances which made this district a complete labyrinth, perfectly adapted as the theatre of the civil war which so long and so fearfully desolated it. It can easily be understood what a complete stronghold such a district as this would become when defended by a brave peasantry, fighting close to their own homes, and thoroughly acquainted with all its intricacies. It must be remembered that, for many years after the Revolution of 1830, only two high roads, properly so called, existed in La Vendée—that from Nantes to Bordeaux, and from Tours to Poitiers—and these were 70 m. apart. The peasantry were all accustomed to the use of the gun; many were old poachers and capital marksmen. The tactics which they adopted was a species of skirmishing, never attacking the enemy but to advantage, themselves choosing time and place, when and where they found him entangled in the toils. At the word of command from their chief, these rude bands assembled at the place of rendezvous, scattered themselves on the enemy's approach, lining every hedge and copse, from which a murderous fire opened on all sides, the Vendéan marksmen picking out their men, while they themselves were invisible or unassailable. La Vendée is divided into three parts: the *Marais*, comprising the sands, salt marshes, and ponds bordering the seashore, intersected by dykes and canals, abounding in pastures, destitute of drinking-water; the *Bocage*, covered with thickets and heaths, rough and bristling, much cut up and well cultivated; and the *Plaine*, very rich and highly cultivated, abounding with corn and vines."

Englishmen will find it difficult at present to realize the ruin and devastation of the Vendean war. The country, ravaged and depopulated, and at every mile, almost, marked by some tradition of blood or battle, and still showing that there is not a house more than 60 years old, is now flourishing with many industries, Clisson itself being a chief centre of the cloth manufacture. The character of the country and its inhabitants has changed under the system pursued by succeeding Governments, and it is now intersected with a network of high roads and railways.

Skeleton Tour of La Touraine.

Orleans.
Blois, Chambord.
Onzain Stat.: Château de Chaumont.
Amboise: rail.
Chenonceaux: road.
Loches: road.
Tours: road. Plessis, &c.
Langeais, Château: rail.
Azay-le-Rideau.
Chinon; Fontevrault.
Saumer: rail.
Angers: rail.
Nantes; or back to Tours.

ROUTE 49.

PARIS TO ORLEANS—RAIL.

Paris (Quai d'Austerlitz) to	Kil.	Miles.
Choisy	10	6
Juvisy Junct.	20	12
Etampes	56	35
Toury	89	54
Artenay	102	63
Orleans	121	75

Time, 2¼ to 4 hrs.; *trains*, 14 daily.

There is nothing remarkable on the line of rly. as far as Orleans, and the scenery after the first few miles from Paris is uninteresting.

The line, at first skirting the walls of the Hospital of the Salpetrière, is carried through a pretty country, at the foot of the slopes which border the l. bank of the Seine. It approaches the river closely at each curve it makes, and commands pleasant views of it. There are many pretty villas and country-houses and numerous villages on the banks.

The rly. skirts the forts and village of Ivry, and of Vitry, famed for its nursery-gardens, on the rt.

6 m. *Choisy* Stat. is close to a viaduct of 8 arches, which also support the towing-path along the Seine; 4 of the arches are left open to allow a passage between the Seine and the town. Choisy is a very thriving manufacturing town, whose population has increased within a few years to 5172. It was called Choisy-le-Roi, because Louis XV. made it one of his residences; the *Château* which he built for himself and Madame de Pompadour is demolished, except a fragment, now turned into a china manufactory. There are also manufactories of morocco leather (the largest in France), of glass, a refinery for beetroot sugar, and chemical works. Close to the station the Seine is crossed by a bridge of 5 arches. The château and village of Orly are seen on the height to the rt. The rly. skirts the park of

Villeneuve-le-Roi, a bridge over the Seine giving access to it. The vine-clad slopes bounding the valley of the Seine are approached at

3 m. *Ablon* Stat. Ablon is composed almost entirely of neat villas. One of the 3 Protestant churches which the reformers of Paris were allowed by the Edict of Nantes to possess stood here.

3 m. *Juvisy* Junct. Stat., situated at the foot of a hill on the rt., is remarkable for its antiquity. Its bridge over the Orge anciently formed the boundary between the kingdoms of Paris and of Orleans. Isabella of Bavaria was arrested here as she was carrying off the Dauphin.

[Branch Rly. to *Montargis*, by Corbeil (see Rte. 49A.]

The *Orleans Line*, curving a little to the S.W., enters the valley of the Orge, descending from Arpajon.

1 m. *Savigny* Stat., a village with a Renaissance castle, fortified 1486 by Etienne de Vesi, chamberlain to Charles VIII. The handsome *Château* occupying its place is now the property of the Princess Dowager of Eckmühl. A large hemp-market is held here. A viaduct of 3 arches over the Yvette leads to

1 m. *Epinay-sur-Orge* Stat., which is 2½ m. from Longjumeau on the old post-road. The quarries near this furnish paving-stones for the streets of Paris. Another viaduct of 5 arches on leaving the Epinay Stat. The line next skirts on the l. the forêt de St. Geneviève: on the rt., beyond the Orge, is seen the château of Vaucluse; Villiers; and Longpont, whose ch. of the 14th cent. is the sole relic of its ancient abbey. A portion of the parc of the handsome château d'Ormay is traversed before reaching

3 m. *St. Michel-sur-Orge* Stat. [*Montlhéry* is about 1½ m. on the rt. Its ancient *castle* (M. H.), of which the Donjon tower (13th cent.), 100 ft. high, remains, was the terror of the kings of France in feudal times, and has been rendered celebrated by Boileau in the Lutrin: —

"Ses murs dont le sommet se dérobe à la vue,
Sur le cime d'un roc s'allongeant dans la nue,
Et présentant de loin leur objet ennuyeux,
Du passant qui les fuit semblent suivre les yeux."

A bloody but indecisive battle was fought between Montlhéry and Longpont in 1465, between Louis XI. and the troops of the so-called "Ligue du Bien Public," commanded by the Comte de Charolais, afterwards Charles the Bold, of Burgundy. The spot still goes by the name of Cimetière des Bourguinons.]

The line passes through the midst of the collection of hamlets called

1½ m. *Brétigny* Junct. Stat. The village gave its name to the treaty of peace, signed 1360, between France and England, by which Edward III. renounced his claim to the throne of France, and released the French king, John, taken prisoner at Poitiers, upon payment of a large ransom, and delivery of numerous hostages. A violent storm which fell upon Edward and his army, as they were advancing from Paris towards Chartres, "reminded him of the day of judgment," and caused him to make a vow that he would give peace to France, and so led to this important treaty. [*Rly.* to *Tours*, by Châteaudun and Vendôme (Rte. 54)].

Beyond this the rly. attains a summit-level, before descending into the valley of the Juine, and reaching

4 m. *Marolles* Stat. The village and château lie a little on the l.; Arpajon (2565 Inhab.) is about 1 m. off on the rt. Beyond Cheptainville we pass through the park appertaining to the château of *Mesnil Voisin*, the property of the Duc de Polignac, a building of brick and stone on the borders of the Juine.

4 m. *Lardy* Stat. Farther on to the l. (2 m.) is the stat. and château Chamarande, built by Mansard, now the property of the Duc de Persigny, magnificently furnished. The rly. skirts the walls of

2 m. *Etréchy* Stat. This is a walled town.

2 m. **Etampes** Stat. (Buffet) (*Inn:* H. du Bois de Vincennes). Close to the Stat. rises a ruined tower called *Guinette* (M. H.), the only remains of the royal castle and palace, built in the 12th cent. by King Robert, and dismantled by Henri IV.

This ancient town (Pop. 8228) consists of 1 street 4 m. long, and carries on a considerable trade in corn and flour, the produce of its numerous water-mills. The *Ch.* of *Notre Dame* (M. H.), distinguished by its very elegant spire, is of the period of transition from the Romanesque to the Early French style. The E. part of the interior, of very irregular plan, contains work of great beauty (end of 12th cent.) and is remarkable for the figures of angels and kings formerly painted, which radiate from the keystones of vaults. It was fortified, and over the E. chapel are chambers for troops, with loopholes. *St. Gilles* has the tower square, but raised on an octagon base, of the 12th cent. *St. Martin's*, another fine church, has a late detached W. tower built in imitation of St. Gilles: it leans considerably, as does the W. end of the ch. It has a good interior in one uniform style (end of 12th cent.). A circular apse, with 3 circular chapels, to the E. The royal *Castle*, resembling in its ground-plan that of Clifford's Tower at York, was given as an *apanage* to the favourites of three French kings—by Francis I. to Anne de Pisseleu, by Henri II. to Diana of Poitiers, and by Henri IV. to Gabrielle d'Estrées. The town retains several picturesque old houses of the time of the Renaissance. The H. de Ville is a mediæval building with turrets and decorated front and porch.

A *statue* has been erected to the memory of the naturalist Geoffroi St. Hilaire, a native of Etampes.

A high embankment, a bridge over the Louette, with a steep incline, carry the rly. from Etampes to the plain of the Beauce, where the scenery completely changes.

3 m. *Monnerville* Stat. The rly. crosses the stream of the Chalonette on a viaduct, and ascending the valley of l'Hémery reaches a second summit-level. On the l. is the handsome château of Mereville, of the time of Louis XIV.

12 m. *Toury* Stat. The partly desecrated *Ch.* here has a fine porch of the 13th cent.

9 m. *Artenay* Stat. [A little to the W., near Rouvray Ste. Croix,

an English detachment of about 2000 men, under Sir John Fastolf, escorting a convoy of provisions to the army besieging Orleans, defeated a force 4000 strong, consisting of French and Scotch, commanded by Dunois and the Count of Clermont, who endeavoured to intercept them. The French left 500 dead on the field, among them Sir John Stewart, constable of Scotland. This engagement, fought February 10, 1429, was called "The Battle of Herrings," from the salt fish for Lent, which formed the bulk of the provisions intended for the English. A few months later, June 18, and nearly on the same ground, at Patay (in Rte. 50), the English forces under the same commander, retreating dispirited from Orleans, were put to flight at the first onset by the French, led on by Jeanne d'Arc. Fastolf ran away, and the brave Talbot, who never turned his back on an enemy, being left to fight almost alone, was made prisoner, together with Lord Scales. A sharp fight, on nearly the same ground, took place on the 1st Dec. 1870, between the German advanced guard and the French, under General de Tucé, in which the latter had the advantage; and the following day, at *Orgères*, occurred the battle between a portion of the Army of the Loire and that of the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg, resulting in the retreat of the French and the advance southward of the Germans upon Orleans.]

4 m. *Chevilly* Stat. Hence the rly. runs in great part through the Forest of Orleans, until it reaches the declivity towards the valley of the Loire. Fossil remains of gigantic quadrupeds (Deinotherium) have been discovered in the freshwater limestone, near Chevilly.

7 m. *Les Aubrais* Junct. Stat. (Buffet). The express trains to Tours and Bordeaux stop 20 min. Branch rly. to

5 m. **Orleans** Junct. Stat. (Buffet), at the N. angle of the town, a little to the E. of the Porte Bannier. *Omnibus* into the town, 30 cent. *Cabs*, the course, 1 fr. 75 cent.; the hr., 2 fr. 25 cent.

(*Inns:* H. d'Orleans, in the Rue Bannier, near the rly., good; H. St. Aignan, good situation, and also near rly.; H. du Loiret; H. de la Boule d'Or.)

Orleans (the Roman *Genăbum*, named afterwards Aurelianum, from M. Aurelius, who rebuilt it in the 2nd cent.) occupies an extensive level area on the rt. bank of the Loire; it contains 50,798 Inhab., and is chief town of the Dépt. of the Loiret. It is not conspicuous for trade or manufactures, and is deficient in tangible historical memorials, chiefly owing to the progress of modern improvements. The town gates and walls have been destroyed, several of the latter since 1830, giving place to handsome boulevards, and above all, nearly every memorial of the heroine of Orleans, Joan of Arc, has been swept away. The population is increasing, but the town is dull, and has an appearance of having once been more populous and thriving.

The objects of interest at Orleans can be seen in a few hours in the following topographical order:—Leaving the rly. station, descend the Rue Bannier to the *Place du Martroy*—statue of Joan of Arc—from which following the Rue Jeanne d'Arc to the *Cathedral*, *Prefecture*, *Ch. of St. Pierre le Puellier*, follow the Quay to the bridge over the Loire; ascend the Rue Royale, near which on rt. are the *Museum* and House of Diane de Poitiers, and on l. those of *Agnes Sorel*, *Jeanne d'Arc*, and *La Mairie*; from which rejoin the Quay to the Ch. of St. Aignan, and fellow the Boulevards de St. Vincent and du Chemin de Fer to the station.

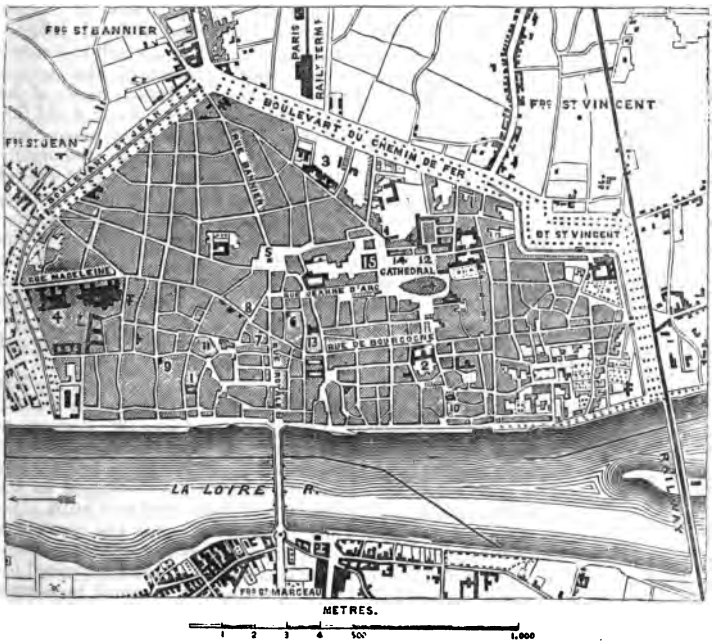
A handsome street, Rue Royale, leads from the bridge over the Loire to the irregular *Place du Martroy*, which occupies nearly the centre of the town. The street is prolonged from it under another name (*Rue de Banier*) to the Barrière de Paris, the Boulevard St. Jean, and the station of the Chemin de Fer, on the Boulevard of the same name.

A wide street (Rue Jeanne d'Arc) has been opened from the Rue Royale to the W. front of the ***Cathedral* (*Ste. Croix*) (M. H.), the most important building of the town. The exterior was rebuilt in the 17th century, at a period

when Gothic architecture was on the decline, yet the style is tolerably pure Flamboyant. Henri IV. furnished the funds, to atone for the destruction by the Calvinists of the former church, to ingratiate himself (vain hope!) with the Jesuits, and to liberate himself from the Pope's excommunication. He laid the first stone in 1601, and the building, unfinished at his death, was continued under Louis XIII., XIV., and XV. The design of the W. front was made in 1726, by the architect Gabriel, and modified by his successor, Paris. It consists of 3 somewhat plain pointed portals, surmounted by 3 rose-windows flanked by 2 towers of equal height (280 ft.). Over the W. portal are some incongruous coats of arms, supported by cherubs, including the shield of the Bourbons now lilyless. The N. and S. porches are classical abominations. The *nave* is flanked by double aisles. The magnificent effect of the interior depends in a great degree on its large scale and fine proportions, the long slender windows of the apse have a fine effect. It is remarkable as the only Gothic cathedral erected in Europe since the Middle Ages.

A portion of the former cathedral,

ORLÉANS.



1. Cathedral.
2. Préfecture.
3. Palais de Justice.
4. Hospital.
5. Jeanne d'Arc's Statue, and Place du Martroy.
6. Maison de Diane de Poitiers.
7. „ Agnes Sorel.
8. „ Jeanne d'Arc.
9. „ François Premier.
10. Ch. of St. Pierre le Puellier.
11. St. Paul.
12. Evêché.
13. Museum.
14. Theatre.
15. Mairie.
16. Ch. of St. Aignan.

blown up 1567 by the Huguenots, who had previously turned it into a stable for their cavalry, in spite of the remonstrances of the Prince de Condé, still remains in the N. choir aisle: the choir ends in an apse. The chapels round the choir and one in the N. transept are in the best style of the 14th cent. and very elegant. The columns and arches of the nave (except that nearest the W. end) are also old and in the Flamboyant style, and the roof was probably reconstructed from the old groinings.

The other churches are either modern or so mutilated as scarcely to deserve notice. *St. Aignan* is the finest; its much injured portal is in the florid style. It consists of choir and transepts, with deep apsidal chapels. Under it is a Romanesque crypt of the 9th cent.

The ancient ch. of St. Airt was destroyed in 1710, but the *crypt* of the 7th cent. is to be seen beneath the buildings of the Grand Séminaire.

The houses Nos. 2 and 4 in the Place adjoining this ch., formerly the Convent of St. Aignan, were built and inhabited by Louis XI. They are of plain red brick, with high pitched slate roofs, having dormer windows, and resemble closely the remaining fragment of the château of Plessis les Tours (Rte. 53). *St. Pierre-le-Puellier* (Petrus Puellarum) has a Norman N. porch and an ancient apse; and the beautiful ruined *Ch. of St. Jacques* has a splendid Flamboyant doorway.

The *Hôtel de la Mairie*, to the W. of the cathedral, is well deserving of a visit. It was built by Maitre Viart, 1442, though having the characteristics of the later period of Louis XII., and was the residence of the intendants of the province, but had fallen into great dilapidation, when it was purchased in 1853 by the town and restored in excellent taste at an expense of 23,000*l.* The ceilings and chimney-pieces in the Salons des Mariages and Salle des Conseils are magnificent. In one of these rooms François II. died. The chandeliers and chimney-piece in the Salle de Reception are said to be old. The sculptured caryatides are attributed to Jean Goujon. Round some of the rooms are the armorial bearings of the ancient échevins of the town, commencing from the 14th cent. In the Salle de Conseil is a portrait of the Maid of Orleans, painted 1581, from an older picture it is said, but deserving little confidence.

In front of the Mairie stands the statue of the Maid of Orleans by the Princess Marie d'Orléans, presented by Louis Philippe, and by far the worthiest representation of the Maid.

In the *Rue des Hôtelleries*, a narrow street on the S. of the Rue Jeanne d'Arc, is the **Musée* (the ancient Hôtel de Ville), a picturesque edifice of the time of Charles VIII. and Louis XII. Here will be found, in addition to a considerable number of ordinary pictures and an assemblage of memorials and portraits of Jeanne d'Arc, a collection of local antiquities, carvings in ivory, wood, and stone, which once ornamented the houses and churches of Orleans, chiefly of the 15th and 16th cents. Amidst old furniture, cabinets, chimney-pieces, basreliefs and statues, is an elaborately carved chest, bearing the histories of Solomon and David in relief; another, which came from St. Aignan, is ornamented with a representation of the coronation of Louis XII. in 1498. A Massacre of the Innocents in stone, an enamelled triptic, and some elaborate ironwork, locks, &c., with Gothic patterns, *chefs d'œuvre* of the hammer and anvil.

Not far from the Musée, in the Rue des Albanais, and Rue Neuve No. 22, is the *house of Diane de Poitiers*, so called because she is supposed to have been laid up in it with a broken leg; but it appears to have belonged to the Bishop of Orleans, and was built 1552. The inner front facing the court is a good specimen of Italian architecture. This house has also been converted into a Museum; it contains numerous cannon-balls of the time of the siege, dug up in making the rly. stat.

In the *Rue du Tabourg*, and behind the Museum, are some interesting specimens of domestic architecture, as the house of Jeanne d'Arc (No. 35), and that of Agnes Sorel (No. 15),

which is well worthy of examination, on account of its carved wood and stone work, its doors, the reliefs round the galleries facing the court, and the very curious and handsome staircase, in five flights, two above ground and three below in the cellars. The back should be looked at as well as the front. The style of architecture and ornament, and the coats of arms, fleurs-de-lis, &c., render it probable that it was erected by Charles VII. for his favourite previous to 1470.

No. 28 Rue de la Recouvrance, called *Maison de François Premier*, is supposed to have been built for the Duchesse d'Etampes in 1540. No. 60 Rue St. Catherine, and a house in Rue de la Pierre Percée, are old and worth notice.

An equestrian statue of the *Maid of Orleans*, armed and riding *en cavalier*, was erected on the Place du Martroy in 1855. The bas-relief in bronze surrounding the pedestal, and representing the chief events in her life, is well executed.

The Maid entered the city on Friday, 29th April, 1429, in the teeth of the English army, which was vastly superior to the French. She had convoyed a supply of provisions from Blois to the famished townspeople, who, as she rode in triumph through their streets on her charger, in full armour, bearing her sacred banner, looked on her as their guardian angel sent from heaven. She was lodged in the *house* of Jacques Bouchier, treasurer of the Duc d'Orléans, which she had selected, with that sense of modesty which always actuated her, because she would there be under the protection of a matron of good repute, his wife. It stood close to the Porte Renard (since removed). The scene of her chief exploits was the *old bridge*, which stood considerably higher up the river than the present one, near the present railway bridge, and rested in the centre on an island. It was defended at its extremity, on the S. bank of the Loire, by a fort, or Tête du Pont, called *Les Tourelles*, which had fallen into the hands of the English before Jeanne's arrival, and, together with another tower in the centre of the bridge, formed a strong post, whence the English greatly annoyed the besieged by a battery planted on it. It was while reconnoitring the town from this battery that the English commander, the Earl of Salisbury, was mortally wounded by a shot from the walls.

The Maid in her enthusiasm decided that this post should be first attacked; and though her design was opposed by the most skilful of the French commanders, they were obliged to yield, because she carried the people and soldiery with her. As the bridge had been broken between the Tourelles and the town, when that fort fell into the hands of the besiegers, a chosen band of troops with the Maiden at their head was pushed across the Loire in boats, and began the attack upon the Tête du Pont on the l. bank, which formed part of the Bastille des Tourelles. It was defended by a picked body of 500 English soldiers, under Sir Wm. Gladsdale, who for many hours kept their assailants at bay by their unerring flights of arrows and fire of cannon. At length the Maid, seeing her countrymen falter, snatched up a ladder, and planting it against the walls began to mount to the escalade, but an arrow pierced her corslet, and she fell as one dead into the ditch. She was with difficulty rescued by her own people from being made prisoner, and was borne to the rear. Here, however, after a few woman's tears, called forth by the anguish of the wound, she received, as she said, the consolation of "her voices," and, encouraged by St. Michael, St. Catherine, and St. Margaret, &c., hurried back once more to the contest. Great was the dismay of the English when they beheld her, whom a few minutes before they had supposed mortally wounded, again leading the assault, and waving on high her magic banner. To the feeling of supernatural agency being exerted against them, was now added the failure of arrows and ammunition, and the hopelessness of aid from their army on the opposite bank. The spirits of the French proportionately increased, and they now began to assault the Tourelles from the side

of the town, throwing beams over the broken arch to render it accessible. 300 men had fallen on the side of the English, but the surrender of the fort was at length decided by the death of their leader, whom a cannon-shot hurled into the river as he was crossing the drawbridge. That same evening the courageous Jeanne, whom but the day before the English had tauntingly desired to "go home and mind her cows," entered Orleans in triumph by the bridge which had remained many months closed; as she had herself foretold before she began the attack. Next day the English raised the siege, burning the remaining bastilles which they had erected around the town to hem it in, and retreating from before the walls. Thus in seven days from her arrival had the Maid accomplished the deliverance of the town.

Opposite to the spot where the old bridge terminated, on the l. bank of the river, stands a small cross called *la Croix de la Pucelle;* and the *cellars,* underneath the neighbouring cabaret called Le Bœuf, are part of the Tête du Pont included in the English bastille called *Les Tourelles.* They are now below the surface of the ground, but receive partial light from the old loopholes, which seem designed for the firing of cannon, and are furnished with rings above, from which it is probable that the guns were suspended by chains, as carriages were not then in use. In its present state the fort is nothing more than a damp, dirty, low cellar, possessing this interest alone, that it is perhaps the sole remaining contemporary relic of the siege.

The life of the Maid of Orleans has been admirably told by Lord Mahon in his 'Essays contributed to the Quarterly Review.'

During the Wars of Religion, at another siege of Orleans, in 1563, Francis Duc de Guise, the conqueror of Calais and defender of Metz, who commanded the Catholic army which invested the town, was assassinated before its walls by a fanatical young Huguenot, Poltrot de Méré. He was shot near the village of Olivet, and died a few days after in the Château de Caubrai. Orleans was then justly regarded as the stronghold of the Protestant party, and continued so until the revocation of the Edict of Nantes banished those who followed the Reformed faith.

Francis II., husband of Mary Queen of Scots, ended his insignificant life at Orleans, in the building now the Mairie, whither he had repaired to be present at the meeting of the Estates. In his last illness, at the instigation of his mother, Cath. de Medicis, he sent a deputation of pilgrims to Notre Dame de Cléry, promising to purge the kingdom of heretics if he recovered. The vow was accomplished not by him, but by Charles IX., at the instigation of the same wicked mother, on the night of St. Bartholomew. On 11th Oct., 1870, after a short fight with the French under Motterouge, Orleans was occupied by a Bavarian force under Von der Thann, who, however, was attacked at *Coulmiers,* and driven out on the 9th Nov. by the French Armée de la Loire under Aurelles de Paladines. From the 2nd to the 4th Dec. a series of bloody skirmishes took place, ending in the reoccupation of the town by the Germans under Prince Fred. Charles.

Cæsar mentions Orleans in the following passage: "Carnutes Genabum concurrunt, civesque Romanos, qui negotiandi causâ ibi consisterant, interficiunt."

The fine *Bridge* over the Loire, of 9 unequal arches, 364 yards long, was built by the great engineer Perronnet; it was opened by Madame de Pompadour in 1760.

Post-Office in the Rue d'Illiers.

Bookseller, Alphonse Gatineau; guide-books, views, maps, and plans of Orleans and the neighbouring country.

Railways to Paris; to Vierzon, Bourges, and Moulins; to Tours, Poitiers, and Bordeaux; to Nantes; to Limoges; to Chartres; to Malesherbes; to Gien.

Diligences:—to Châteaudun, in Rte. 54.

Environs. The objects of interest in the vicinity of Orleans are—

a. Notre Dame de Cléry, the burial-place of Louis XI. (Rte. 53).

b. The *Château de la Source*, the residence of Lord Bolingbroke, is about 5 m. off; a cab will cost 5 or 6 francs. The way leads across the bridge over the Loire to the village of Olivet (omnibus every hour); here the road turns to the l. The river Loiret here issues out of the ground in full flood, from a natural basin, but injured by art, close under the walls of the château, in the midst of the park. After a course of only 10 m. it falls into the Loire, giving, however, its name to the department. With this exception, the grounds, laid out in the formal French style, have little interest; nor has the château itself any other than what it derives from having been the residence of Bolingbroke, who rented it during the latter years of his life when exiled from England. He was visited here by Voltaire, and wrote here his 'Reflections on Exile.' It is a circuitous and tedious walk up to the source, owing to inclosures and ditches. There is a second and more copious source, produced, at the beginning of the last century, by the artificial means employed to confine the waters of the old one, which, in consequence, broke a new passage for itself. Here Davoust signed the decree for disbanding the Army of the Loire, after the reverses of Napoleon in 1815.

Not far from La Source, near the road, is another handsome *Château—de la Fontaine.*

ROUTE 49A.

PARIS TO MONTARGIS, BY CORBEIL AND MALESHERBES—RAIL.

Paris (Boulevard Mazas) to	Kil.	Miles.
Juvisy	23	15
Corbeil	33	21
Malesherbes	77	48
Montargis	118	74

Time, 4 to 5 hrs.; *trains*, 4 daily.

The Rly. follows that to Dijon as far as

9 m. *Villeneuve St. Georges* Junct. Stat., and then turns off to the rt. to

5 m. *Juvisy* Junct. Stat. [Rly. to *Orleans* (Rte. 49.)]

The line continues along the margin of the Seine. It passes through Châtillon, a little port on the Seine, where is a suspension-bridge built over the river by Aguado, the Spanish banker; and on the rt. the château of Romaud, once the residence of De Thou.

The rly. cuts through a part of the park of Petit Bourg, broken up and parcelled out by its owner. The *Château*, when it belonged to the Duc d'Antin, was often the residence of Madame de Montespan. It has been converted into a reformatory for juvenile offenders.

7 m. **Corbeil** Stat. A considerable manufacturing town of 5541 Inhab., on the Seine, here crossed by a bridge, at the influx of the Essonne. There are very extensive *Flour Mills* and a corn-market for the supply of Paris. The *Church of St. Spire* (Exupère), rebuilt 1437, after a fire, contains the tomb of Jacques de Bourgoin, founder of the college of Corbeil. The little church of *St. Jean en l'Ile* was built by the Templars in the 13th cent.

A continuous street connects Corbeil with the village of Essonne, a flourishing place, from its manufactures of cotton, machinery, &c. From Corbeil the line runs through *La Ferte-Alais* to

28 m. *Malesherbes* Junct. Stat. The town of 1900 Inhab. lies some distance to the l. The *Ch.* (M. H.) dates from the 13th cent. [Branch Rly. S.W., 40 m., through *Pithiviers* to Orleans.]

The line turns S.E. to

8 m. *Puiseaux* Stat., a town of 1900 Inhab., with a *Ch.* (M. H.) dating from the 12th cent.

8 m. *Beaune la Rolande* Stat. On the 28th Nov., 1870, there was a struggle here between the French and Germans, in which the former had the advantage. After traversing three viaducts, the line falls into the main line from Paris to Lyons at

8 m. *Montargis* Junct. Stat. (Rte. 105).

ROUTE 50.

ROUEN TO ORLEANS, BY DREUX AND CHARTRES—RAIL.

Rouen to	Kil.	Miles.
Pont de l'Arche	20	13
St. Pierre du Vauvray	33	20
Louviers	40	25
Pacy-sur-Eure	69	43
Buell	81	50
Dreux	110	69
Chartres	153	83
Voves	178	111
Orleans	229	144

The opening of this Rly. offers a direct route to Orleans, avoiding Paris, and the traveller can now proceed to Louviers, by *Elbeuf*, instead of as given below.

For the line through Pont de l'Arche and St. Pierre du Vauvray to

25 m. *Louviers* Junct. Stat, see Rte. 8. Thence the line turns S.E. along the rt. bank of the Eure to

18 m. *Pacy-sur-Eure* Junct. Stat.

[Branch *Rly.* N. 12 m. to Vernon, in Rte. 8.]

7 m. *Bueil* Junct. Stat. [Rly. E. to Paris, W. to Caen (see Rte. 25).]

3 m. *Ivry-la-Bataille* Stat. This village of 960 Inhab. gives its name to the *Plain of Ivry*, the scene of one of the most decisive victories gained by Henry IV. over the armies of the League, 14 May, 1590, composed of French and Spaniards under Mayenne. Henri's words to his soldiers before the battle were—"Je veux vaincre ou mourir avec vous. Gardez bien vos rangs; ne perdez point de vue mon panache blanc, vous le trouverez toujours au chemin de l'honneur." The *pyramid* (M. H.) erected on the spot to commemorate the battle was thrown down 1793, but restored by Napoleon I. in 1809.

3 m. *Ezy-Anet* Stat. The **Château d'Anet* (M. H.) lies 2 m. distant, on the l. bank of the Eure. The castle was built by Philibert Delorme for Diana of Poitiers out of the funds furnished by her royal lover Henri II., 1552, on the site of a castle which belonged to her husband Louis de Brézé, to which she retired to pass her widowhood. When she first became acquainted with the king she was 31 years of age, and he a youth of 13, yet she maintained her influence over him to her death, in spite of the Queen, Catherine de Medicis, and he wore her colours—the widow's weeds, black and white—to the last, and her symbol, the crescent of Diana, is conspicuous in all his palaces. She was buried in the *Chapel*, which still remains, surmounted by a cupola, but her monument was removed to Paris, 1793, when her body was torn from the grave. The château was decorated by Jean Goujon and Jean Cousin, but was almost entirely pulled down at the Revolution; part of the façade was transported to Paris, where it has been re-erected at the Ecole des Beaux Arts. The château now belongs to a Parisian stockbroker, Mons. Ferd. Moreau, who has restored and refurnished the left wing.

25 m. *Dreux* Junct. Stat. See Rte. 35.

27 m. *Chartres* Junct. Stat. See Rte. 34.

16 m. *Voves* Junct. Stat. [*Rly.* N.E. to Paris, S.E. to Tours. See Rte. 54.]

17 m. *Patay* Stat. See Rte. 49.

15 m. *Orleans*, Rte. 49.

ROUTE 51.

PARIS TO SCEAUX—RAIL.

11 kilom. = 7 Eng. m. Trains every hour in ¼ hr.

Terminus in Paris, Barrière d'Enfer.

The peculiarity of the line is, that, for the sake of economizing outlay, it is constructed upon steep slopes and

curves of small radius, which are traversed in safety by railway trains called *trains articulés*, owing to the carriages being made to turn on their wheels like road carriages, the invention of M. Arnoux.

4 m. *Arcueil*. A village of 5250 Inhab., much frequented by the Parisians. In the valley is an *Aqueduct* constructed by Mary of Medicis to carry the waters of the Rungis to Paris. There are also traces of the Roman aqueduct erected by the Emp. Julian for a similar purpose. The *Ch.* (M. H.) is of the 13th and 15th cents., and fine.

3 m. *Bourg-la-Reine* Stat. is situated in the valley, at the foot of the ascent on whose summit is the town of Sceaux. The intervening space is traversed by means of curves carried along the face of the slope in zigzags (lacets).

[A branch rly. leads to 25 m. *Limours*, passing *Palaiseau*, where are ruins of a very old castle. In the *Ch.* are interred the remains of the illustrious Arnaulds, ruthlessly torn from their graves at the razing of the abbey of Port-Royal, 1710, with the inscription, "Tandem requiescant." Thence to 2 m. *Berny;* 2 m. *Massy;* 2 m. *Palaiseau;* 3 m. *Orsay.*]

½ m. *Fontenay aux Roses*, a village in the neighbourhood of which roses and raspberries are extensively cultivated.

1 m. **Sceaux** Stat. The town was once famed for its *Château*, built by the Minister Colbert (1760), afterwards enlarged by the Duc de Maine, whose duchess assembled around her here a circle of the most eminent literary characters in France. It was destroyed, except some of the offices and the menagerie, at the Revolution, and its park, which had been laid out by *Le Nôtre*, ploughed up. A part of it has been converted into a public garden. The Terrace is a favourite place of resort of the Parisians. Sceaux is celebrated for its large cattle-market, and has a considerable glass-manufactory. Florian, the novelist, who resided in the château and died here, is buried in its Cimetière. (See *Handbook of Paris.*)

In the neighbourhood is *Chatenay*, where Châteaubriand had a country seat. Voltaire (Arouet l. j.) was born here 1694.

ROUTE 52.

THE LOIRE—GIEN TO ORLEANS.

65 kilom. = 40 Eng. m.

Rly. completed along the rt. bank of the Loire. 3 trains daily in 2 to 4 hrs. There are roads along both banks.

The scenery of this part of the course of the Loire is not interesting. The rly. from Paris to Lyons by the Bourbonnais passes from Gien to Nevers. The upper course of the Loire is described in Rte. 105.

Gien (*Inn:* H. Poste) is a [town of 6717 Inhab., on the rt. bank of the Loire, here crossed by a bridge, on the carriage-road from Orleans to Lyons. Its *Ch., St. Pierre*, has been injured by repairs. Near it is a portion of an ancient *Castle*, built 1494, by Anne de Beaujeu, daughter of Louis XI., now turned into the *Sous-Préfecture*. It was at Gien that the Maid of Orleans crossed the Loire on her way from her native village, to announce her divine mission to "Charles the Dauphin" at Chinon.

l. A mound of earth, called La Motte du Leon, is supposed to be a Celtic tumulus.

About 15 m. below Gien lies

l. *Sully*, a town of 2503 Inhab., possessing a wire suspension-bridge, and an old *Castle*, resting its front upon the Loire, and separated from the town by a deep ditch. It was built by Maximilian de Béthune, first Duc de Sully, the minister of Henri IV., who purchased the site from the family of La Trémouille. He passed here the latter years of his life, after his disgrace under Louis XIII., maintaining considerable state with his regi-

castle at one end of the ridge, and by the cathedral at the other.

The quarter of the town which reaches down to the river consists of modern houses, forming a handsome quay lined with rows of trees, and along it, between the town and the river, the high road passes. A bridge of 11 arches, surmounted by an obelisk in the centre, unites Blois with its suburb Vienne on the l. bank of the Loire.

Numerous streets of stairs running up the hill, and winding narrow lanes lined with picturesque old houses, form the bulk of the town, and must be threaded to reach the

**Castle*, for ages the residence of kings and princes, and the scene of momentous events. It had been converted into a barrack, and was allowed to go to ruin until 1845, since which the Government, with laudable zeal, has restored a part of it to its pristine condition, with excellent taste, under the direction of M. Duban. The interior is well worth visiting, on account of the splendid manner in which it is decorated. The joists and underside of the floorings are gorgeously painted, and the walls covered with stamped canvas of brilliant patterns, said to be taken from those upon leather originally used for the same purpose. The E. front, of red brick, facing the square, is of the time of Louis XII., who rebuilt the château, in which he was born.

The fine Gothic portal, surmounted by a niche or oriel, is not in the centre of the façade: it leads into a court, the E. side of which is lined with a cloister, resting on pillars carved with a net-like panelling. In the N. corner tower is a grand staircase with groined roof. On the rt. hand (N. side) is the pile raised by Francis I., corresponding in style (Renaissance) with part of Chambord, and overhanging the precipice behind. The W. side of the quadrangle was commenced under Gaston Duc d'Orléans from the designs of Mansard, but never finished, and is sadly out of character with the rest; that on the left (S.) is the most ancient, the work of the early Dukes of Orleans. An elegant winding staircase of stone, on whose rich roof the Salamanders of Francis I. have been replaced, leads into the suite of rooms in which the tragedy of the Guises was consummated. Tradition has preserved the memory of the minutest particulars connected with it; and, though the interior was stripped of almost all its decorations at the Revolution, and the walls whitewashed like those of a prison, points out the chamber and oratory of Catherine de Medicis, the originator of the plot,—the *cabinet of Henri III.*, where he distributed the daggers to his 45 gentlemen in waiting, who were to rid him of his rival, the hero of the barricades,—the *Salle des Gardes*, where he was leaning against the chimney-piece when summoned by the king,—the *Vieux Cabinet*, at the entrance of which the victim was set upon by his assassins as he was turning aside the tapestry hung over the door, and fell pierced with more than 40 wounds,—the outer chamber where the body lay for 2 hours with a cloak and a cross of straw thrown over it, until the royal murderer, issuing from his den to look at the corse of the once mighty Henri le Balafré, spurned it in the face with his foot, saying, "Je ne le croyais pas aussi grand," and then ordered it to be burnt, and the ashes thrown into the river. During the progress of the murder, prayers were being offered up for its success in the adjoining chapel. This happened Dec. 23, 1588:—on the following day the Cardinal de Lorraine, brother of the Balafré, was murdered in another part of the castle.

On the ground floor at the N.E. angle of the building is the *Salle des Etats*, to attend the meeting of which the Guises had been enticed from Paris, their stronghold. This hall is as old as the beginning of the 13th cent.: a row of pointed arches carried by circular piers with flowered capitals, supports its double, barn-like roof of wood. The king's throne was placed in the centre, under the arches.

One other memorial of that age of crime and superstition remains to be

noticed,—it is a sort of *pavillon* raised upon an old tower, detached from the S. side of the castle, projecting over the Ch. of St. Nicholas towards the river: this was the *Observatory of Catherine de Medicis*, to which she used to retire, with her astrologer, to consult the stars. It bears the inscription "Uraniæ Sacrum." A stone slab, like a tombstone, in front of the pavillon, served as a support for the astrolabe.

A good general view of the gloomy château is gained by turning to the l., on issuing from the great gate, through a vaulted passage into the Place du Collége, above which it rears aloft its sombre mass from a basement of grass-grown buttresses. Here we may see the window from which Queen Marie de Medicis let herself down to escape when banished to Blois by her son, Louis XIII., on the murder of the Maréchal d'Ancre.

The **Ch. of St. Nicholas* (or *St. Laumer*) is a fine Gothic edifice, chiefly belonging to the 12th cent., surmounted by a central tower (pyramidal roof) and 2 W. towers of excellent early pointed work, the N. one carried up with a short stone spire, the S. incomplete. The choir ends in an apse of 7 arches resting on single shafts; there are 3 apsidal chapels behind: the Lady Chapel being late pointed. The manner in which the capitals are executed, the regularity of the arches, and the elegance of the circular half Gothic half Byzantine dome, opening in the centre to a groined lanthorn above, deserve notice. This ch. has been restored.

The terraced *Gardens* attached to the former *Evêché* form a very agreeable walk, commanding a fine view of the town and river, extending to the distant towers of Chambord and Chaumont. The present *Cathedral*, or Ch. of *St. Louis des Blois*, is a handsome uniform building of late date, having the remains of simple, massive, Early Pointed work at the N. of W. end. It has been well repaired. The old Cath. was destroyed in the Revolution. A vaulted sewer, partly cut in the rock, by some attributed to the Romans and called an *aqueduct*, runs under a considerable part of the town. It is known among the people as the *Pont de César*.

The principal square has on one side the Préfecture, on another the Palais de Justice, and on a third the Halle au Blé.

In the old streets of Blois may still be found some interesting specimens of domestic architecture of the 16th cent. The Hôtel d'Alluye retains an elegant portico in its inner court, and some rooms on the ground floor, but little altered. There is a curiously-carved house in the Rue Pierre de Blois, leading to the Evêché; and an elaborately-sculptured staircase of wood representing St. George and the Dragon, with a central balustrade corded to the top, and compartments filled with various compositions.

Among the celebrated *natives* of Blois may be named the learned divine and chronicler, Peter of Blois, who died in England A.D. 1200; Louis XII.; and Denys Papin, for whom the French have claimed the invention of the steam-engine. A *Statue* of the latter has been erected here.

In 1814 the Empress Marie Louise, with her son the King of Rome, and the remnant of the Imperial court, government, and army, were despatched hither by Napoleon I., when he appointed his wife regent.

[The *excursion to the Château de Chambord* may be conveniently made from Blois, whence it is about 12 m. distant, a 2 hrs.' drive. A carriage with 1 horse will cost 12 fr., with 2, 20. The road runs up the l. bank of the Loire in sight of the Château of Menars on the opposite bank, on an embankment or Levée, nearly as far as St. Dié, a village with a small *Inn* (au Grand Chambord), 1½ m. distant from the château. A cross-road leads thence, crossing the Cosson before reaching Chambord. (*Inn*: H. St. Michel, built by the Comte de Chambord, extortionate.) The Forest of Chambord is strictly preserved; but guests at the inn readily obtain permission to fish in the streams, which abound with pike. Few fine trees remain in the forest, which displays now little sylvan beauty.

**Chambord*, the Versailles of La Touraine, until Louis XIV. deserted that beautiful province to fix the royal residence close to the metropolis. It has no beauty of site to recommend it, being placed in the midst of a sandy flat, surrounded by a park 21 m. in circumference. The château itself, though somewhat fantastic, is on the whole a grand edifice, surmounted by a vast group of turrets, minarets, and cones, which rise conspicuous at a distance from a solid basement, the chief features of which are 6 prodigious round towers, 60 ft. in diameter, which seem the types of all those which characterise French châteaux. Its architecture marks the transition between the fortified castle and the Italian palace, and is a fine specimen of the age and taste of Francis I., who built it, after his return from captivity in Spain, on the site of a favourite hunting-lodge of the Counts of Blois. He laid the foundation of it 1526, and employed 1800 men constantly on its construction until his death. It was afterwards continued, though with less zeal, by Henri II. and Charles IX.; and even Louis XIV. added the low screen at the back, which, though from Mansard's designs, is ugly, and of course inappropriate to the style of the original. It is at present the property of the Comte de Chambord, the last descendant of the elder branch of the house of Bourbon, having been purchased and presented to him by public subscription. He has been confirmed in his possession, though the Bourbons have forfeited their other estates in France. Its 440 chambers, though uninhabited, are undergoing judicious repairs in good style and taste, the rental of the estate, amounting to about 3000*l.* a year, being entirely applied by its present possessor on its restoration.

Inclosed within the building a *central* tower rises above the rest, called *Lanterne*, or Tour de la Fleur de Lis, from the lily of France, in stone, 6 ft. high, which surmounts it. After having escaped the hammer which defaced all its minor brethren so profusely scattered over the building, at the first Revolution, this monster lily was destined to fall at the second, but has been since replaced.

In the interior of this tower is a very beautiful double spiral staircase so contrived that parties may pass up or down at the same time without meeting, scarcely even seeing each other. It opens on each floor upon 4 vaulted corridors, branching from it like the arms of a cross. The compartments of their roof are filled with the Salamander and F. of Francis I. One of these salles was converted under Louis XIV. into a theatre, for the first performance of Molière's Bourgeois Gentilhomme, in which Molière and his troop performed before the King, for the first time, 1670. The device of Henri II. the H. entwined with the crescent, are distributed over the parts begun by that sovereign, but left unfinished.

It will be worth while to ascend to the terrace and top of the tower to examine the details of the building, its solid masonry inlaid with morsels of black slate cut into the shape of lozenges, crescents, &c. Its rich niches, its classic chimneys converted into ornaments instead of being eyesores, its balustrades and flying buttresses, are all curious specimens of the style of the Renaissance, resembling somewhat the Elizabethan architecture at Burleigh. The roof is like the hull of a ship, and must contain a forest of timber. From the top of the tower we look down upon the wide forest and wilderness of a park with its avenues.

Since the commencement of the recent restorations, it is once more a pleasure to traverse the labyrinth of rooms, though showing no traces of the paintings with which they were decorated by Jean Cousin. The intellectual traveller, in imagination, can repeople their halls and corridors with the brilliancy and beauty of the courts of Francis I. and Henri II., recalling the time when Charles V. was entertained here on his passage through France, 1539, by his generous rival, or that when Mademoiselle de Montpensier here lost her heart to the unprincipled Lauzun.

Among the occupants of Chambord

since it was deserted by its royal owners, was Marshal Saxe,—that veteran of a hundred fights, to whom it was given by Louis XV. He brought with him 6 cannon taken from the enemy in battle, and a regiment of lancers, whom he reviewed daily from the terrace, although with one foot already in the grave. He died here 1750. It afterwards became the asylum of Stanislas King of Poland, and his daughter Maria Leczinska. It was plundered and dismantled by the mob of 1792, and sold as national property. Napoleon bestowed it in 1809 upon Marshal Berthier, from whose widow it was purchased for 1,542,000 francs raised by a national subscription, and presented to the Duc de Bordeaux.]

[Another excursion may be made from Blois to Valençay (36 m.) by Selles, an old town on the Cher, and Stat. on the Rly. from Tours to Vierzon. See Rte. 53A. The *Château of Valençay*, built by Philibert Delorme in the reign of Francis I., is interesting architecturally as a specimen of the style of the Renaissance, and historically as the prison-house allotted by Napoleon to Ferdinand VII. of Spain from 1808 to 1814, and still more as the country residence of the late Prince de Talleyrand during the latter years of his life. The larger rooms contain portraits of monarchs (Napoleon and Louis-Philippe presented by themselves) and of statesmen, his contemporaries.

Talleyrand's last resting-place is in a vault beneath the chapel of a small nunnery, in a narrow street off the Place at Valençay. It is entered through an iron door in the floor, and in one corner a dark stone sarcophagus contains all that remains of the wily minister of so many sovereigns.

Returning to Selles, the traveller may take the Tours Rly. (Rte. 53A) down the valley of the Cher by *Montrichard* Stat. to *Chenonceaux* Stat., and thence to Amboise. Between Selles and Montrichard, but on the opposite side of the Cher, 1 m. from the *St. Aignan-Noyers* Stat., is *St. Aignan*, where there is a magnificent *Château* of various ages, formerly belonging to the Ducs de St. A. It is inhabited and kept up with beautiful gardens and terraces, fine trees, and profusion of flowers; the gardens are open to the townspeople.]

At Blois begins the colossal dyke called *La Levée*, commenced under the Carlovingian monarchs, and augmented and strengthened by different kings of France, to restrain the Loire within its bed, and check its destructive inundations. It runs along the rt. bank as far as the mouth of the Mayenne, below Angers, a distance of about 100 m. It is faced with masonry, and the railroad is carried along its summit. It is a considerable work, though inferior to the dykes of Holland, and was burst through by several inundations in the present century.

The first portion of the rly. beyond Blois runs close to the Loire, through rather pretty country.

6 m. *Chouzy* Stat. Near here stood the Abbaye de la Guiche, the burying-place of the Counts of Blois, of the house of Châtillon.

3 m. *Onzain* Stat.

[*Château de Chaumont* (M. H.), on the other side of the Loire, 1 m. from Onzain Stat., a conspicuous building picturesquely situated on a height, with machicolated towers, and forming three sides of a square. It was the residence of Cath. de Medicis, whose rooms are unaltered, and who here spent her time in plotting and in studying the stars until the death of her husband, Henri II., when she obliged his mistress, Diane de Poitiers, to exchange her bijou château of Chenonceaux for this, which, however, Diane does not appear to have inhabited. It was the birthplace of Cardinal George d'Amboise, 1460, the wise minister of France under Louis XII. The arms, still visible, cut in the masonry, are a blazing hill—*chaudmont* device of the founder. The Prince de Condé, after the battle of Dreux, was confined in the castle. Voltaire is said to have written a part of 'La Pucelle' here.]

7 m. *Limeray* Stat. The rly. from here traverses a fertile plain. The castle of Amboise, on the opposite

side of the Loire, is seen. A little beyond *Vouvres* the line enters the province of La Touraine, and the Dépt. de l'Indre et Loire.

4 m. **Amboise** Stat. (*Inn:* H. Lion d'Or, cheap and homely).

This old and languid town of 4188 Inhab., stands on the l. bank of the Loire, here divided by an island, upon which the 2 bridges which cross the river rest. The *Ch. of St. Denis* is a very interesting building of circular style of 12th cent., with a very late double N. aisle, the whole restored. The capitals are richly carved, some with unusual ornaments. A handsome round door, and a low square tower. In this ch. is a celebrated *Holy Sepulchre,* formerly in the ch. of St. Amboise. It consists of a group of figures of life-size, well executed in terracotta and coloured, representing the entombment of our Lord. They are said to be portraits of the family of an intendant of the palace named Babou, the three Maries being likenesses of his daughters, who were in turn favourites of Francis I., as the story goes!! Marie de Beauvilliers and Gabrielle d'Estrées, favourites of Henri IV., were daughters of 2 of these ladies.

The most conspicuous object is the *Castle,* long the residence of the Kings of France, and until 1852 the property of King Louis Philippe. It has now been restored to the Comte de Paris, and is being repaired. Its buildings, flanked by round towers with conical roofs, reduced to a small portion of their original extent, occupy the platform of a lofty rock, nearly vertical in front and rear. Louis Philippe, who inherited the castle as the descendant of the Ducs de Penthièvre, caused the old houses to be swept away from the base of the rock, so as to form an opening from the bridge to a *tunnel* under the castle. It is vaulted with masonry. Two enormous towers, 90 ft. high and 42 ft. in diameter, spring from the ground at the base of the rock, and rise to the level of the others. They contain winding, inclined passages of so gradual a slope that horses and even carriages can ascend to the summit of the rock. The one in front has been closed to form a saloon, but that behind, on the l. as you emerge from the tunnel, still gives access to the castle, and is remarkable for its elegant florid Gothic doorway and groined roof. This and most of the other existing buildings date from the time of Charles VIII., who was much attached to Amboise, having been born in it, 1470; he also died here, 1498.

The Arab chief Abd-el-Kader and his family were confined in the castle. He was released from his captivity by Louis Napoleon in 1853.

In the interior of the château there is little deserving of notice. The rooms preserve no traces of antiquity. Yet in them perhaps was decided the bloody doom of those 1200 Huguenot prisoners concerned in the celebrated "*Conjuration d'Amboise,*" which had for its object to extricate the young king Francis II. from the clutches and influence of the Guises, 1560. The secret of the plot was betrayed to the Duc de Guise by one of the conspirators, and its leader, La Renaudie, seized and hung on a gibbet on the centre of the bridge. The remainder of the conspirators were dispersed and everywhere seized; the castle walls were decorated with the hanging bodies of the criminals, and the courts and streets of the town streamed with blood, until the wearied headsman, resigning his axe, consigned the remainder to other executioners, who drowned them in the Loire. Such was the extent of the carnage that the court was driven from Amboise by the stench of the dead bodies. This butchery formed the prelude to the still more horrible tragedy of St. Bartholomew. It was from the balcony, that still exists, that Cath. de Medicis, her 3 sons, afterwards kings Francis II., Charles IX., and Henry III., with Mary Queen of Scots, witnessed in Court costume the execution of the Huguenots. In 1470 the exiled Queen Margaret of Anjou and her son, through the intervention of the cunning Louis XI., were reconciled in this castle to her quondam foe, the Earl of Warwick, the kingmaker, by whom her own husband had

been dethroned. Hatred to Edw. IV. became the bond of union, and they agreed in vowing vengeance on him.

The *Gardens* are well kept, and the view from their terraces is as good as that from the château itself. Within the garden stands the *little* **Chapel*, one of the most exquisite morsels of profusely florid Gothic in France, restored by Louis Philippe in a manner creditable to French taste. It is in the form of a cross, was built for Anne of Brittany, and is dedicated to St. Hubert, whose miraculous meeting with the stag, having a cross growing between its horns, is curiously carved over the rich doorway. This and the interior are panelled throughout, or decorated with foliage of the most delicate sculpture. The leaves, showing all their fibres, crisped and curled round the edges like kail, are cut behind in a style more common in ivory than stone. Interspersed among the foliage are singular and grotesque figures; along the wall runs a sort of frieze of stonework; the roof is elaborately groined, and the pendants hanging from it carved with grotesques, the whole reminding one of the richness of Henry VII.'s chapel, without its arrangement.

In the cliff a little above the castle, and entered from the garden behind a private house, are some singular caverns called *Les Greniers de Césa*r. They consist of a lofty, narrow excavation running in a line into the rock, evidently once divided into 3 storeys, as the broken edges of the vaulting which formed the roofs and floors still remain; and by their removal the three are now thrown into one. The walls are covered with cement. At the extremity is a round, vaulted chamber lined with masonry; at one side runs a staircase cut in the rock, descending towards the river and ascending to a level with the roof of the excavation, where it leads to three other similar vaulted chambers, constructed, it is supposed, to hold corn. There is a tradition that Cæsar, after conquering the Gallic confederation, reached the Loire at this spot, and formed a camp, traces of which still exist on the cliff above, together with these excavations below it, to serve as storehouses.

Leonardo da Vinci spent the last 2 years of his life in the Château de *Cloux-Luci*, still existing in the outskirts of the town, and died there 1519. He is supposed to have been buried in the ch. of St. Florentin, of which only the foundation remains.

[A very pleasant excursion may be made from Amboise to 10 m. S. **Chenonceaux* (the fourth *stat.* on the branch line from Tours to Vierzon, Rte. 53A.) The castle is within an easy walk from the rly. The road lies through the forest of Amboise (till 1852 a domain of the Orleans family), passing on the rt. the pagoda in the park of *Chanteloup*, whose magnificent château, the retreat of the Duc de Choiseul, minister of Louis XV., when banished from court to his estate, has disappeared. After the Revolution it belonged to Count Chaptal, the distinguished chemist and minister of Napoleon I., who established here a refinery of beet-root sugar, which he first brought to perfection. The château was pulled down and sold about 1830 for its materials.

At *La Croix* we reach the valley of the Cher; from which a road, turning to the l. up the rt. bank of the river, covered hereabouts with vines, leads to the village of Chenonceaux. See Rte. 53A.]

On leaving Amboise the country becomes exceedingly populous and fertile, and is known as *la belle plaine*, but to an English eye is somewhat monotonous. Many of the houses are partly excavated in the soft limestone rocks.

8 m. *Vouvray* Stat. A pleasant effervescing wine is made here. Here the rly. describes a great curve, and crosses the river to the l. bank on a fine bridge 80 feet above the Loire.

[5 m. beyond Vouvray, following the post-road, and on the top of a projecting promontory, stands, conspicuous from afar, the feudal beacon-tower called *Lanterne de la Roche Corbon*, not unlike a great factory-chimney. It anciently communicated by telegraphic signals with the Castle

of Amboise. It is about 50 ft. high, and rises on the very verge of the cliff, above the village of Roche Corbon, remarkable because most of its habitations are excavated out of the limestone (craie tuffeau). They are sometimes faced with walls, at others with partitions of the rock, and are prettily festooned with vines. These habitations seem comfortable, and are mostly provided with little gardens in front. Some large excavations which belonged to the castle of Roche Corbon, with fragments of masonry, remain. It will be worth while to climb up to the top of the rock, beside the Lanterne, to look down upon the Loire—a pleasing prospect. It is possible to scramble through the vineyards along the top of the cliff nearly to St. Radegonde, and so to reach Tours (4½ m.), but there is no path.]

1 m. *Montlouis* Stat., on the S. bank. This village, composed partly of excavated dwellings, was the place of meeting of an ecclesiastical assembly, convened to witness the reconciliation of Henry II. with Thomas Becket three months before his assassination at Canterbury.

The river Cher and the canal of the Cher are traversed by bridges, and the cathedral towers of Tours come into view.

St. Pierre des Corps Stat. (Buffet.) Branch-line to

6 m. **Tours** Junct. Stat. (Buffet), on the S. side of the town; omnibus from rly.

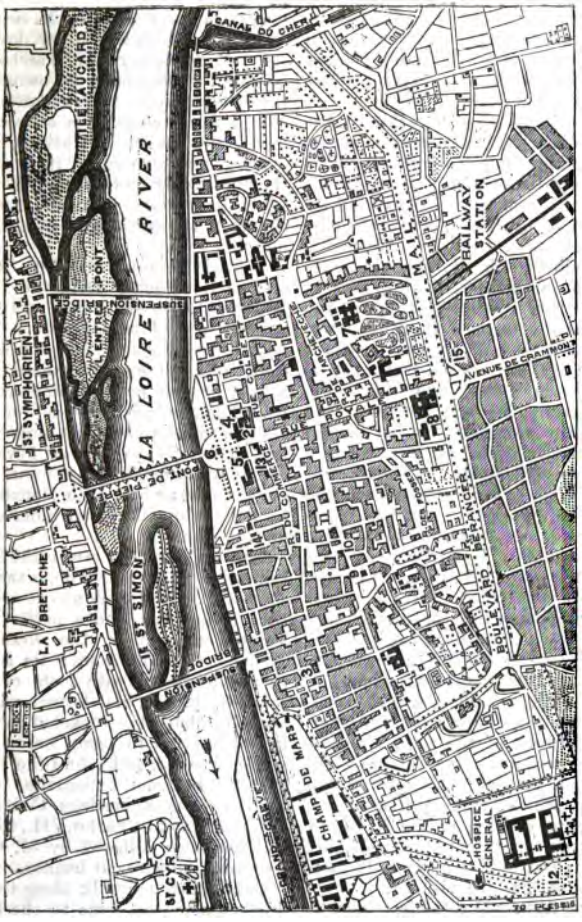
(*Inns:* H. de l'Univers, very good and clean; H. de Bordeaux; H. d'Angleterre—all three are near to the railway terminus; H. du Faisan, good; H. de Londres, comfortable—both in Rue Royale; H. du Croissant, quiet; H. La Boule d'Or, in the Rue Royale.)

This chief town of the Dépt. d'Indre et Loire, and once capital of La Touraine, is situated in the midst of the fertile but flat valley of the Loire, on its l. bank, and between it an dthe Cher; it has 42,450 Inhab. The *Rue Royale* is a fine avenue in a direct line from the *bridge* (15 arches, 1423 ft. long), near which is a *statue* of Descartes. At the entrance of the Rue Royale from the bridge stands on the rt. the *H. de Ville*, and on the l. the *Musée*, while parallel to the river run quays and planted platforms, serving as promenades. The town is no longer remarkable for the many objects of curiosity which it possessed before the first Revolution; and the charms of its situation, in an unvaried plain, have been greatly overrated. The Loire, though a fine river at certain seasons, contributes less to its beauty than might be expected, owing to a great part of its channel being left bare in summer, so that only three or four of the arches of the bridge bestride the shrunken stream, while the rest span wider beds of bare gravel. Owing to the flatness of the surface and the dust there are few interesting walks or rides in its immediate vicinity. The place has long been a favourite residence for English, owing to the mildness of the climate and the unusual number of good houses to let. In our description of the town we shall assume the plan of a walk which may occupy a long morning or a short day.

Starting from the main street, the Rue Royale, a turning on the l. (Rue de l'Archevêché) will lead to the Archevêché, approached by a handsome Italian portal, at the side of which rises the **Cathedral* (M. H.) of *St. Gatien*. The W. front consists of 3 lofty portals enriched with florid ornaments, niches, and foliage, surmounted by a large 8-light window, the head of which in outline represents, instead of a circle, 4 pointed arches, one reversed on each side, filled with the finest glass. The tracery is inferior to good English Dec. The whole of this façade, which, with the towers, is covered with elaborate ornament, dates from the last years of the 15th or beginning of 16th cent. The 2 towers, 205 ft. high, are grounded, the N. on early pointed, the S. on circular work, and their upper stages, crowned with scaled cupolas, show the influence of the Renaissance; yet, late as it is, the whole is striking and picturesque.

The interior, 256 ft. long and 95 ft.

TOURS.



1. Cathedral. 2. Church of St. Julien. 3. Church of Notre Dame la Riche. 4. Museum. 5. Mairie. 6. Statue of Descartes. 7. Préfecture. 8. Palais de Justice. 9. Grand Marché. 10. Tour de l'Horloge. 11. Tour de Charlemagne. 12. Botanic Garden. 13. Hôtel Gouin. 14. House of Tristan l'Hermite. 15. Hôtel de l'Univers.

high, is in a mature and noble style of Gothic. In the choir (begun 1170) and part of transepts it shows fine work of 13th cent. (1220-40); thence going W. the work is more and more recent, and the 2 W. bays of the nave are nearly as late as the W. façade. Yet the whole harmonizes together, in lightness and grace, the old painted glass giving an admirable tone of colour to it.

In the beautiful old painted glass surrounding the choir, and shedding a venerable gloom about the high altar, may be seen the arms of St. Louis, of his mother, Blanche of Castile, and of the town, consisting of a group of towers. The effect of the fine rose-window in the N. transept is impaired by a thick stone prop carried through the middle to support the roof. At the angle of the S. transept and aisle is the monument of the 2 children of Charles VIII. and Anne de Bretagne, in consequence of whose early deaths the succession to the Fronch throne passed to the branch of Valois Orléans. Figures of the 2 princes, watched by angels, recline on a sarcophagus decorated with the arms of France, with dolphins, basreliefs, and ornaments in the style of the *Renaissance:* it is the work of 2 native artists named Juste, contemporaries of Jean Goujon. Near the choir 2 ancient frescoes have been uncovered from beneath the whitewash.

It will be worth while to ascend the towers for the view, which includes Amboise, Plessis les Tours, and the course of the Loire and Cher. The woodwork of the roof, a masterpiece of carpentry, covering the stone roof, and the elegant, light, spiral staircase, which rests on a crown of open groins or ribs, in the N. tower, can be seen at the same time. Behind the cathedral is the ancient *Psallette* (song-school), worth visiting.

Passing from the cathedral towards the quay, a circular and machicolated tower is seen on the rt., inclosed within the Infantry Barracks: it is the only part remaining of the *Castle* built by Henry II. of England in the 12th cent. From this tower Charles de Lorraine, the son of Henri Duc de Guise (le Balafré), imprisoned by Henri III. after his father's murder at Blois, escaped by letting himself down by a rope. Turning to the l. and following the line of the quay, the iron *wire Suspension-Bridge,* erected by M. Seguin in 1847, is reached, and lower down the stone *Bridge:* several of its arches have given way at different times, owing to the river undermining its foundations.

The *Musée* contains a collection of nearly 200 mediocre paintings, chiefly copies, and some casts; it is open to the public only on Sundays, 12–4. A Last Judgment, brought from the chapel of the castle of Plessis, may be noticed.

A little way up the Rue Royale, on the l. in going from the bridge, is the *Ch. of St. Julien,* until 1847 desecrated and turned into a coach-house for diligences, but happily rescued by a subscription raised among a few private persons amounting to 80,000 frs., and again opened for divine service. It is a fine early pointed edifice, date 1224, except the lower part of the W. tower, which is founded upon circular arches, with Romanesque capitals belonging to an older church of 11th cent.

The 2nd street on the rt. is the Rue du Commerce; here, at No. 35, is the handsomest specimen of domestic architecture in the town, and a perfectly preserved example of the *Renaissance* style of the 15th cent.: its front is richly decorated with coats of arms, scroll-work, &c.; its dormer windows are terminated by crocketed gables; a turret projects in front, below which is the entrance, and round the bottom runs a light trefoil balustrade. It was built by Jean Xaincoings, Controlleur des Finances to Charles VII., in 1400, and has been restored by M. Gouin, its owner, an eminent banker.

Continuing our walk along the Rue du Commerce we come to the Rue de Briçonnet, where the house No. 18 is supposed to have been that of *Tristan l'Hermite,* the ill-omened executioner of Louis XI. (see 'Quentin Durward'); there is little authority for the designation. It is a brick mansion, apparently

of the 15th cent.: its front terminates in a gable, and is flanked by a stair turret, 70 ft. high, curiously vaulted with brick, overtopping the neighbouring houses and commanding a view of Plessis. Its door and windows are surmounted by florid canopies, that over the entrance supported on twisted columns; but the remarkable feature, to which alone the house owes its name, is that the string-courses dividing the 3 storeys are in the form of ropes in relief, ending in fantastic knots, so as to resemble the noose of a halter. The same ornament (the cordelière) occurs on the tomb of Anne of Brittany, and on her chantry at Loches, and was adopted by her as a badge of her widowhood. This house may have belonged to her or to some of her retainers. On the wall may be read the inscription, "Assez aurons, et peu vivrons," and "Priez Dieu pour—." The walls in the court-yard are similarly decorated, and on the ground floor is an elegant vaulted recess for a lavatory. In the same street, on the opposite side, is a house of evidently greater antiquity, having a vaulted ground floor, and an arcade of pointed arches running along its first floor.

In going from here to the Grand Marché, a corner house, now a shop, is remarkable for carvings on the front, representing the Holy Family.

In the centre of the market-place itself is a white marble fountain, *la Fontaine de Beune*, of considerable elegance, in the *Renaissance* style, executed by the brothers Juste. Among its ornaments are the porcupine, the badge of Louis XII., and the ermine of Anne of Brittany.

Two Towers, rising on either side of the Rue St. Martin, are conspicuous objects in all views of the town: one, containing the clock, having a domed summit, is known as the *Tour de St. Martin* or de l'Horloge; it was the S. tower of the 2 steeples at the W. end, and is of the 12th cent.; the other, *la Tour de Charlemagne*, was so named, it is said, because his wife Luitgarde lies buried beneath it. It is of the 11th cent., and stood at the end of the N. transept. They deserve notice as the only remaining relics of the vast *Abbey Ch. of St. Martin de Tours*. The treasure of this celebrated building was the shrine of St. Martin, the first metropolitan of Tours (A.D. 340), which became to the barbarians of the dark ages what Delphi was to the Greeks—the oracle which kings and warriors came to consult in the beginning of the 7th cent. The concourse of pilgrims to this shrine occasioned the Roman town, the *Cæsarodunum* of the *Turones*, to swell to ten times its original extent. The great ecclesiastical establishment, to which this church was annexed, spread civilization and religion through the country, and its archbishop became the patriarch of France and one of the most influential personages in the state. At the heads of the chapter even the kings of France were proud to enrol themselves.

Its treasures in the precious metals, jewels, &c., amounted to 575 marcs of gold and 2200 marcs of silver in 1562, when it was pillaged by the Huguenots, who broke the images, melted the ch. plate, and burnt the relics deposited here. After flourishing for 12 centuries, the church, an enormous edifice, was utterly destroyed at the Revolution in 1790, excepting two towers out of the five which adorned it. On viewing the space which now intervenes between them, some idea may be formed of its extent. Attached to the tower of St. Martin may be seen Romanesque pillars and capitals of an earlier edifice. In 1861 the rock-hewn tomb, believed to have been that of St. Martin, was discovered under a house which occupied the place of the high altar. A chapel has been built over it. Louis XI., through gratitude for supposed benefits derived from the Saint's intercession, surrounded St. Martin's shrine with a railing of silver which weighed nearly 6776 marcs. His needy successor, Francis I., had it converted into crown-pieces.

Bishop Gregory of Tours, a native of the city, was buried in the church of St. Martin.

The *Halle aux Blés* has been formed out of a church dedicated to St. Cle-

ment. It is a building of the 16th cent.; its florid N. porch, though mutilated, still retains portions of elegantly sculptured foliage. There is nothing to be seen within.

The *Ch. of La Riche*, at the extreme W. end of Tours, near the river, is a handsome late Pointed ch., double aisles to nave, and square E. end. It contains some old painted glass. Beneath it is a cave, from which, it is said, St. Gatien preached Christianity to the Gauls in the 3rd cent.

The *Palais de Justice* is a splendid Doric building, erected in 1840. Prince Pierre Bonaparte was tried here, April, 1870, and acquitted of the murder of Victor Noir. There are extensive *Barracks* on the river-side near the suspension-bridge.

On the N. of the Paris road, crossing the river and turning to the l., is the Romanesque *Ch. of St. Radegonde*, 10th and 11th cents. (within it is the cave of St. Gatien). Beyond this are 2 round towers, with a gate-house and a few crumbling foundations of walls, the sole remains of the once magnificent *Abbey of Marmoûtier* (Majus Monasterium), of the 13th cent., one of the richest in France, founded by St. Martin, in which the sainte ampoulle, or vessel of holy oil, given by an angel to St. Martin to rub a bruise which he had received, was preserved, an object of great veneration with pilgrims. It was sent to Chartres to anoint Henri IV. at his coronation. On the site has been built a modern nunnery and school of the Sœurs du Sacré Cœur, and a *chapel* in the style of the 13th cent., M. Pallu, architect. Two chapels have been fitted up in subterranean chambers adjoining the ruins of the N. transept, dedicated to St. Martin and St. Brice.

In a handsome building—the old Hotel Papian, 88 Rue Royale—is the *Public Library* (open Tues., Wed., Thurs., and Fri., 12–4, closed Aug. 15 to Oct. 15), of 50,000 volumes, including some curious MSS., the bequests of M. Salmon and the Prince d'Essling. In it are a copy of the Gospels in gold letters on vellum (8th cent.), which belonged to the church of St. Martin, upon which the Kings of France took the oaths as first canons of that church; Les Heures of Charles V. of France and of Anne de Bretagne; and numerous other Missals.

The most frequented *Café* is that of the *Ville de Paris*, in the Rue Royale.

The *Poste aux Lettres* is in the Rue de la Guerche, and the *Theatre* in the Rue de l'Archevêché.

Eng. Church Service every Sunday at 11½ and 4½ in the French Reformed Ch., Rue de la Préfecture.

M. Dorange Jeune, 88 Rue Royale, takes 3 or 4 pupils to instruct in French and to prepare for the schools.

The promenade *du Mail* on the old ramparts, now planted with rows of trees, forms a favourite evening lounge.

One of the chief mints of France was established in the middle ages at Tours, whence come the *livres Tournois*, silver pieces (libra of the Romans), which were coined here.

Le Roi Hugon, who plays the part at Tours of the Boghie of English nurseries, is said to have given the name of Huguenots to the Protestant party in France, who, being very numerous in the town, but checked and watched by their enemies, used to meet beyond the walls, issuing out stealthily through this gate at nightfall. A more probable derivation of Huguenot is from the Swiss Eidgenossen, *i. e.* Confederate. Another memorial of the days of persecution of the Protestants is retained in the name *Rue Renard*, persons suspected of heresy being pursued in the streets by the Romanists about 1562, hunted down with the cry "au Reynard," and often massacred.

Tours was long famed for its manufacture of silk stuffs, established 1480 by Louis XI., who settled here Italian weavers. This branch of industry, however, was ruined by the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, by which the population was reduced from 80,000 to 42,450. This tyrannical act transferred 3000 families, with their wealth and industry, from France to Holland, and the manufacture dwindled away at Tours to take root at Lyons. Tours

has now no manufacture of importance. The dried plums, *pruneaux de Tours*, once so celebrated, are now less esteemed than those of Gascony and Provence.

Tours is a city of some importance in history. The *Turones*, its ancient inhabitants, joined the league of the 64 Gallic towns under Vercingetorix against Julius Cæsar, and are mentioned by Lucan, as the "Instabiles Turones."

The representatives of the French Government withdrew here from Paris on the advance of the Germans, and Gambetta having escaped from the capital in a balloon, and safely descended at Amiens, arrived here 9th Sept., 1870, with the object of inciting the Provinces to raise the siege of Paris. On the 21st Dec., the Government having previously retired to Bordeaux, the Germans encamped in the neighbourhood, and on 19th Jan., 1871, occupied the town in force.

Railways:—W. to Angers and Nantes (Rte. 46); S. to Poitiers, Angoulême, and Bordeaux (Rte. 64); N. to Paris, by Orleans, or by Vendôme and Châteaudun (Rte. 54); to Le Mans (Rte. 34); and thence to Caen, Rennes, St. Malo, and Brest; E. to Vierzon (Rte. 70), by Chenonceaux and Villefranche-sur-Cher (branch to Romorantin); S.W. to La Roche-sur-Yon and Les Sables d'Olonne (Rte. 57).

Diligences daily to Loches.

Touraine was bestowed as an *apanage* on Mary Queen of Scots and her short-lived husband Francis before his accession to the throne; she is said to have drawn revenue from it, as Duchess of Touraine, even while in captivity in England; it was afterwards given to the Duc d'Alençon, brother of Henri III.

Excursions.—*a.* The *Lande de Miré*, about 9 m. to the S.W. on the road to Azay-le-Rideau, is supposed to be the place where the Saracens under Abderrahman were defeated by Charles Martel, and Europe saved from the Mahomedan yoke, A.D. 732.

b. Plessis lès Tours, the castellated den built, 1463, by the tyrant Louis XI., with which the world is familiar through the admirable descriptions in 'Quentin Durward,' is situated in the commune of La Riche, W. of Tours, adjoining a hamlet of scattered cottages, on a flat marshy plain, between the Loire and Cher, and about a mile distant from the Halle au Blé, passing the Barrière des Oiseaux, and beyond the Hospice Générale. Visitors to Plessis must not expect anything in the shape of a feudal castle, for it was built at a time when fortresses were giving place to fortified mansions. When complete, it must have been somewhat like the older parts of Hampton Court and St. James's palaces, which were built not many years after Plessis, with this difference, that the avarice of Louis, and his apprehension of danger, caused it to be raised in so plain a style, and with so many defensive precautions, walls, drawbridges, battlements, and wet and dry ditches, that its outer appearance must have given it more that of a prison than of a palace. The small fragment now remaining is of red brick, and consists of an audience hall and smaller apartments, with a round tower adjoining, in which is an elegant staircase, with a small room on the summit, where Charles VIII. passed his neglected youth. The whole was restored in good taste by the owner, M. Petit, an advocate of Tours, c. 1860. Originally a cloister ran along the front. All traces are gone of the pitfalls, fosses, &c., which surrounded the castle; but on the l., as the house is approached, are seen the foundations of walls of masonry; and a door, below ground, leading into a range of vaulted chambers barely lighted by small windows, which may once have served as prisons, as they now do for cellars. At the end of the small terrace walk in the garden is another vault, called the *prison of Cardinal de la Balue*, who was immured in it for 11 yrs. for betraying his master's secrets to Charles of Burgundy: it has been repaired, but the steps of a stair, the lower part of the fireplace, the grated bars and shutters are old. At the back of a cottage, nearly facing the garden gates, is a small vaulted chapel, said to be the *Oratory* of Louis XI., where he

passed hours in prayer to the Virgin and Saints for the cure of his complicated maladies; he died at Plessis in 1483. Plessis was converted into a Dépôt de Mendicité in the last century; it was pulled down at the Revolution.

Between Plessis and the Hospice Générale is an old house, called *La Rabaterie*, having a square turret at the back, which passes for the residence of Olivier le Daim, the barber and minister of Louis.

c. The *Colony of Mettray*, an agricultural penitentiary, 8 m. from Tours, near the stat. of the same name on the rly. to Le Mans (Rte. 29), established in 1839 by two philanthropic French gentlemen, the late Vicomte Bretignères de Courteilles and the late Conseiller Frédéric Auguste de Metz (born 1796, died 1873), deserves very high praise, and has served as a model for all our educational efforts in that direction during the last 20 years. The objects which its founders and directors had in view are, the education and restoration to society of juvenile offenders who while in the public prisons have distinguished themselves by good conduct and by signs of repentance. This is sought to be effected by teaching them a mode of gaining an honest livelihood, chiefly by agricultural labour. The ground on which the establishment stands was given by M. de Bretignères, and is supported by voluntary donations and annual subscriptions. The inscriptions of English visitors and benefactors to Mettray is interesting, and include the Buxtons, Gurneys, W. E. Gladstone, &c.

More distant and highly interesting excursions may be made from Tours, by rail or road, to *Chenonceaux* (Rte. 53A) and Amboise (in this Rte.); Loches (Rte. 56); and to that curious and unexplained monument of antiquity La Pile de St. Mars (Rte. 58).

M. Souillé will furnish good *horses* and carriages.

ROUTE 53A.

TOURS TO VIERZON BY CHENONCEAUX AND VILLEFRANCHE—RAIL.

Distance, 71 m.; *time*, 3¼ hrs.; *trains*, 4 daily.

Tours is described in Rte. 53.

This Rly. follows the line to Blois (Rte. 53) as far as

6 m. *Montlouis* Stat., and then turns E. to

15 m. *Chenonceaux* Stat. (*Inn:* Bon Laboureur, homely: clean bed). The village, with *Ch.* dating from the 11th cent., is connected by an avenue with the *Château*. In front of the building extends a stately terrace lined with stone balustrades, approached by a flight of steps; adjoining is a pleasure garden.

The **Château de Chenonceaux* (M. H.) has nearly as many *souvenirs* as Amboise, but not of so tragical a kind. It was built in the more joyous days of Francis I. Its picturesque round towers, bartizans, and bridged moat, though still preserving the form of a castle, were not meant for defence; and its front is covered over with graceful and delicate ornaments in the Italian style, such as are seen at Longleat, at Audley End, and in edifices raised by Inigo Jones. It was begun in 1515 by Thomas Bohier, banker and Chancellor of the Exchequer, of Normandy, partly on the piles of an old watermill standing in the bed of, and on the rt. bank of, the Cher. It is most picturesque, with its green court, its single advanced round tower, occupied by the *Concierge*, and pretty formal gardens laid out by B. Palissy. Its interior is almost unaltered since the day it was built; and has been well kept up and carefully restored, after Primaticcio's drawings, retaining its old furniture, cabinets, china, enamels, and glass. Its vaulted hall is hung with armour, its walls are covered with stamped cloth, its

doors are screened by tapestry curtains which draw aside, and the rich ceilings are of blue ground studded with stars, and its Gothic chapel (16th cent.) has some fine painted glass. The glass out of which Francis I. drank, and Mary Queen of Scots' mirror, are shown. But its chief interest arises from the persons who have lived in it. Having fallen into the hands of the State, it was given by Henri II. to Diane de Poitiers, who proceeded with the building and extended the bridge, previously constructed over only part of the river, quite to the other side, and raised upon it a handsome, but less quaint and interesting building, of two storeys. Hither her royal lover used to repair after hunting in the neighbouring forest of Loches. Her initial D is plentifully introduced combined with his H, thus [illegible]. She was, however, dispossessed of her fair mansion, on the death of the king, by the unscrupulous Catherine de Medicis, who embellished and enlarged it, and whose bedroom, with the original furniture, remains. It was bequeathed by her to Louise de Lorraine, widow of Henri III., and on her death in 1601 it descended to the Duchesse de Vendôme and the Condés. Towards the end of the last cent. all the literary men of the time used to assemble here, drawn together by the owner of Chenonceaux, Madame Dupin, widow of a fermier général, who died 1799. In her time, Voltaire, the exiled Bolingbroke, Rousseau, and many others, were her constant visitors; and in the little, dusty, faded *theatre*, which occupies the end of Diana's gallery, Rousseau's opera, 'Le Devin du Village,' was performed for the first time. The collection of historical portraits, including all the persons who have lived here, is curious; among them a whole-length portrait of Diane de Poitiers, said to be by Primaticcio, in the costume of her namesake, the goddess, with a dog in a leash, a bow at her back, and wearing a taffeta petticoat, embroidered with fleurs-de-lis. Here are also portraits of Henri IV., of Sully, of Rabelais, and a cast of the sweet face of Agnes Sorel from her monument at Loches. The most remarkable circumstance connected with Chenonceaux, perhaps, is that it escaped the ravages of the Revolution, owing to the respect which Madame Dupin, its owner, commanded. The Château, which passed by inheritance into the paternal keeping of Count de Villeneuve, now belongs to M. Wilson. Strangers are obligingly permitted to see the interior.

Loches (Rte. 56) is about 18 m. S. of Chenonceaux; the road runs partly through the forest of Loches. It is a dreary drive.

The Rly. from Chenonceaux continues E., entering the dépt. of Loir et Cher.

5 m. *Montrichard* Stat. There are ruins of an old *Castle* of the 11th cent. here, and the post-road between Blois and Loches is here crossed.

12 m. *Aignan-Noyers* Stat. The town of *St. Aignan*, of 3400 Inhab., is 1 m. distant, where there is a *château*, described in Excursions from Blois, see Rte. 53.

8 m. *Selles-sur-Cher* Stat. [9 m. S. is *Valençay*, described as an excursion from Blois, see Rte. 53.]

11 m. *Villefranche* Stat. [Short branch Rly. N.W. to *Romorantin*, an industrious town of 7700 Inhab., with *Ch.* (M. H.) dating from the 13th cent., and *Château* built by Francis I., now partly used as the Sous-Prefecture.

16 m. **Vierson** Junct. Stat., in Rte. 70.

ROUTE 54.

PARIS TO TOURS BY CHATEAUDUN AND VENDÔME—RAIL.

	Kil.	Miles.
Paris (Quai d'Austerlitz) to Bretigny	32	20
Dourdan	56	35
Châteaudun	131	80
Vendôme	177	109
Tours	234	146

4 trains daily, in 6 to 8 hrs.

On leaving Paris the line follows that of the Orleans Rly. as far as *Bretigny* (Rte. 49), where it branches off on rt., passing by

3 m. *Arpajon* Stat. (*Inn:* H. du Lion d'Argent), a village of 2850 Inhab., on the Orge, with a handsome modern *Hotel de Ville*, built in 1868.

23 m. *Dourdan* Stat., a large town in a rich agricultural district, on the high road from Etampes to Rambouillet.

27 m. *Voves* Junct. Stat. Rly. N.W. to Chartres, S.E. to Orleans. See Rte. 50.

13 m. *Bonneval* Stat., a considerable village on the *Loir;* from here the line follows that stream as far as Vendôme.

9 m. *Châteaudun* Stat. (Castellodunum) (Buffet.) (*Inn:* H. Grand Monarque), a town of 6781 Inhab., on the banks of the Loir. Its most conspicuous building is the ancient unfinished *Castle* of the Comtes de Dunois, surmounted by a tower, 90 ft. ghih, built by Thibaut le Tricheur] in the 16th century, and containing a very fine staircase. A sharp fight occurred here on 19th Oct., 1870, between about 4000 French, who had barricaded the streets, and a body of German infantry and horse, who succeeded in capturing the town. *Diligence* to Orleans.

The rly. descends by the side of the Loir to

27 m. **Vendôme** Stat. (*Inns:* H. Gaillandre, good; H. Lion d'Or, fair), a town of 9470 Inhab., on the Loir, at the foot of vine-clad slopes. Above it rise the picturesque ruins of the *Castle* of the Ducs de Vendôme, demolished at the Revolution, when the tombs of Jeanne d'Albret, mother of Henri IV., and of several princes of the House of Bourbon, were destroyed. Near the Lion d'Or is the fine *Abbey Church of the Holy Trinity* (15th cent.), containing good painted glass, with elaborate wood carvings in the stalls of the choir. It has an early Gothic tower and spire. Nearly opposite to it are very curious remains of a *Norman* domestic edifice of an early date. Several smaller churches merit the notice of a lover of ecclesiastical architecture. The town was occupied by the German forces under Prince Frederick Charles, 16th Dec., 1870. [12 m. N. is the fine modern *Château de Gaudinière*, belonging to the Duc de la Rochefoucauld-Doudeauville; and 2 m. N.E., at the village of *Areines*, near vestiges of the Roman road from Mans to Orleans, are the foundations of a Gallo-Roman theatre discovered in 1863, and capable of holding 3000 spectators.]

On leaving Vendôme the rly. crosses the Loir, and quits its valley to traverse a monotonous plain to

16 m. *Château-Renault* Stat., a town of 3978 Inhab.

8 m. before reaching Tours the line joins that from Le Mans, near the Mettray Stat. (see Rte. 31), which it follows for the rest of the journey.

St. Symphorien, nearly opposite Tours, forms a sort of suburb to that city; and not far from it is the pretty hamlet of St. Cyr, where a cottage, called La Grenadière, was long the retreat of the poet Béranger.

17 m. Tours (Rte. 53).

ROUTE 56.

TOURS TO LOCHES AND CHÂTEAUROUX.

	Kil.	Miles.
Tours to Loches	40	25
Châtillon	61	38
Buzançais	84	52
Châteauroux	108	67

108 kilom. = 67 Eng. m. to Châteauroux, which can be more conveniently reached, however, by the Rly. viâ Vierzon (Rtes. 53A and 70).

Diligences, daily, to Loches, in about 4 hrs., and on to Châteauroux (Rly. *in progress*).

Continuing along the rly. to Poitiers (Rte. 64) for about 2 m., the road turns to the l. Several villages are passed whose houses consist of caves cut in the soft rock, the fronts built up with masonry, the roofs covered with vines,

from the midst of which peer the chimneys. After passing the Cher it reaches the prettily situated village of

12 m. *Cormery* (2 interesting *Churches*, and a detached spire of a ruined abbey): we then reach the borders of the Indre, which flows through one of the most fertile valleys of Touraine; the road follows the S. bank of the river to

13 m. **Loches.** (*Inns:* H. de la Promenade; H. de France). This is one of the most picturesque towns of La Touraine, more striking than Chinon or Amboise; its buildings are huddled together round the base of a lofty rock, from whose summit the romantic ruins of its historic *Castle* still frown over the landscape, forming a grand and striking feature in every view. In and around the town the number of ecclesiastical foundations, which clustered around the castle, is remarkable. Many of the buildings remain. The town still retains several of its old *gates*, grooved for the portcullis, and provided with holes for stockade beams; in its streets are some old houses. There is also a picturesque Renaissance *Bell Tower* (Clocher St. Antoine), 1529. Pop. 5154.

On the opposite bank of the Indre lies the *suburb of Beaulieu*, connected with Loches by a row of bridges. The river winding through the vale overspreads its bottom with a carpet of the richest verdure, fringed with willows and poplars, and turns the machinery of some mills.

The **Castle of Loches* (M. H.), long a royal palace, in which James V. of Scotland was married to Magdalene of France, and where Francis I. held his splendid court, and received the Emp. Charles V. on his way from Spain to Ghent, is better known and has a more tragic reputation as a prison of state, especially during the reign of Louis XI., when the sound of the name of Loches was more dreaded than Plessis itself, as a place destined to the workings of those secret acts of cruelty with which even Louis shamed to pollute the interior of his own residence. There were in this place of terror dungeons under dungeons; living tombs, to which men were consigned with little hope of further enjoyment during the rest of their life than to breathe impure air, and feed on bread and water. At this formidable castle were those dreaded places of confinement called *cages*, in which the prisoner could neither stand upright nor stretch himself at full length; an invention, it is said, of Cardinal Balue. Louis appointed Olivier le Daim, the barber, who was also his prime minister, governor of the stronghold, and gaoler. The castle is composed of a pile of buildings of various ages, partly in ruins. The most conspicuous is the tall white *Donjon* tower, rising at the extremity of the platform of rock to a height of 120 ft., and overhanging the verge of the precipice. Its walls of even and perfect masonry, supported by buttresses in the form of circular pillars, pierced by scanty round-headed windows above, and by mere slits below, show that it is a work of the 12th cent. In its size, form, and arrangement of the entrance stair, within a projecting lower tower, it is not unlike the White Tower of London, and the castles of Newcastle and Rochester. Its walls, 8 ft. thick, are now empty, gutted of the four storeys into which they were divided. It stands within the precincts of the town gaol, a part of the castle having been converted to that ignoble purpose. Beside it rises a picturesque group of less ancient towers of the 13th cent., in one of which, circular in form, are the *Cachots* of Louis XI., extending downwards in four storeys. Two of them contained the iron cages invented by Cardinal Balue, who himself expiated his treasonable betrayal of his master's secrets to the Duke of Burgundy by a confinement of 8 years in one of them. In another, Ludovico *il Moro*, Duke of Milan, the prisoner of Louis XII., was confined from 1500 until 1510, when death released him from his sufferings. Here Philip de Comines, the historian, was shut up in 1486; the Duc d'Alençon in 1456; Charles de Melun, who was beheaded, in 1468; and many more victims. These dungeons are vaulted, and dimly lighted by small windows, whose deep re-

cesses, in walls 10 or 12 ft. thick, are closed by double iron gratings. The cages existed down to 1789.

At the other end of the castle platform, on the l. on ascending from the town through the arched gateway, is a more modern pile of building, now the *Sous-Préfecture*. At one end of the terrace behind it, within a small tower, is the monument of *Agnes Sorel*, favourite of Charles VII., who was born, 1400, in the neighbouring château of Fromonteau. Upon a base of black marble reclines the effigy of *la Belle des Belles*, in white limestone, her hands uplifted in prayer, with two angels bending over her head and shielding her with their wings, and two lambs at her feet. She is gracefully attired in long robes, a simple circlet surrounds her brow; her countenance exhibits a refined character of beauty, modesty, sweetness, and gentleness, not unworthy of the Madonnas of Raphael, and befitting one whose influence over a king was never exercised but for good. On the death of Charles, the ungrateful monks of Loches, whom the bounty of Agnes had cherished and her bequests had enriched, wished to eject her remains and tomb from their church, on the score of scruples as to the purity of her life; but even Louis XI., much as he hated Agnes, reproved such ingratitude, telling them that if they abandoned her body they must also resign her benefactions: so the bones remained in their place until the Revolution, when the grave was violated; the monument was preserved from destruction only by the interference of the local authorities of the day.

Between the Sous-Préfecture and the keep of the castle stands the **Ch. of St. Ours*, a very interesting monument of ecclesiastical architecture, standing quite alone in its singularity, and meriting in a high degree the attention of every student of Gothic architecture. It presents 4 conical roofs, the 2 at the E. and W. being the usual low stone spires of towers, while the 2 between them on a lower level, but of very much the same shape and size as the others, are octagonal cupolas, with no ceilings underneath them. To the W. of the belfry-tower is a low square vaulted porch, or narthex, of early Romanesque work, out of which opens a large and very perfect Romanesque *W. doorway*, rich in mouldings and sculptured figures. A series of low rude arches in the lower part of the W. tower (the oldest part of the building) leads into the *nave*, which is divided by a plain pointed arch into 2 square compartments, each covered with an octagonal cupola of stone. The mysterious obscurity of these lofty vaults is very striking. The E. tower, which is over the crossing, opens to the ch. with an octagonal cupola, perforated at the top and considerably lower than the cupolas in the nave, and the responds which carry the arch of the crossing next the nave are elaborately corbelled in 2 stages. The transepts are short, with circular apses to the E., between which is the main apse, also circular, with a crypt below it. The main part of the building is of the 12th cent. According to existing records, the building was completed, as it stands, in 1180, but the lower part of the W. tower, and probably of the nave, walls, and crypt, are of the 11th cent. The sculpture throughout—the capitals, the corbels in tiers supporting the W. arch at the crossing, the cylindrical font—merit particular notice. The *crypt*, beneath the choir, was one of the places of devotion of Louis XI.

In the Beaulieu suburb, 1 m. E. of Loches, is a ruined *Church, l'Eglise des Moines*, formerly attached to a Benedictine convent destroyed by the English, 1412. It has a fine Romanesque tower and mutilated spire. A lofty fragment of nave, transepts, and apse, of various dates, is retained for a ch., and is connected with the steeple by fragments of the N. aisle. The view of Loches hence is very fine. The *Ch. of St. Laurent* will interest the architect.

The rest of the road to Châteauroux lies up the vale of the Indre to

14 m. *Châtillon-sur-Indre*, 3875 Inhab., in the Dépt. l'Indre, and ancient province of Berry, with a *Ch.* (M. H.)

of the 11th cent. *Diligence* N. to Blois and S. to Le Blanc.

14 m. *Buzançais*, 5145 Inhab., on the rt. bank of the river, whose branches are here crossed by several bridges.

14 m. *Châteauroux*, on the rly. from Orleans to Limoges (Rte. 70).

ROUTE 57.

TOURS TO LES SABLES D'OLONNE, BY CHINON, BRESSUIRE, AND LA ROCHE-SUR-YON—RAIL.

	Kil.	Miles.
Tours to Azay-le-Rideau . .	24	15
Chinon	46	28
Loudun	72	45
Thouars	97	61
Bressuire	128	80
Chantonnay	179	112
La Roche-sur-Yon . . .	213	133
Les Sables d'Olonne . . .	254	159

Time, 7 to 8 hrs.; *trains*, 3 daily.

Tours is described in Rte. 53.

The completion of this Rly. gives direct communication between Paris and the watering-places on the W. coast, and enables the traveller to visit several places of interest only reached by cross-roads previously.

[The carriage-road on leaving Tours is lined by avenues of poplars, and crosses at the distance of 1½ m. the Cher, a little to the E. of Plessis les Tours (Rte. 53). The Cher runs for about 15 m. below this nearly parallel with the Loire, before uniting itself with that river. Along its N. bank runs a considerable levée or dyke constructed by Madame de Vermandois, abbess of Beaumont les Tours, to protect the land between it and the Loire from inundations. After crossing this flat tract, passing numerous white villas and hamlets, the road ascends and traverses an extensive table-land before entering the valley of the Indre].

15 m. *Azay-le-Rideau* Stat. (*Inn:* H. du Grand Monarque), a small town prettily situated on the Indre. The *Ch.* (M. H.) dates from the 12th cent. On the l. 1½ m. from Stat., nearly concealed by trees and surrounded by branches of the river, is the **Château* (M. H.), one of the best preserved 16th-cent. specimens in France of the semi-castellated manor-house, in the style of the Renaissance. It was built by Gilles Berthelot in the reign of Francis I., and over the chief portal, enriched with sculpture and combinations of three classic orders, is the Salamander, the emblem of that king, with the motto "Nutrio et extinguo," and the initials of the founder, G.B. The sculptures have been thought worthy of Jean Goujon; the entire façade and the staircase are very elegant, the wall partly panelled, and the compartments filled with diversified patterns. The interior has been preserved nearly unaltered, and contains old furniture and a collection of portraits. A bed, supported by 4 carved figures, is of elaborate workmanship. A neatly kept garden surrounds the house. The present owner is Marquis de Bienoourt.

A considerable tract of forest is traversed beyond Azay before reaching

13 m. **Chinon** Stat. (*Inns:* H. de France, clean and good; H. Chêne Vert, dirty), a deserted and dull town (6895 Inhab.), which yet deserves a visit, owing to its pleasing position on the rt. bank of the Vienne, and on account of the numerous and interesting historical associations attached to its ruined *Castle* (M. H.), the French Windsor of our Plantagenet kings, as it has been termed, where Henry II. breathed his last (1189), uttering curses on his sons, whose disobedience had hastened his death. It was the favourite residence, also, of the French monarchs, from Philippe-Auguste to Henri IV., and the scene of Joan of Arc's first appearance in public (1428). The remains are of vast extent, and are under restoration. They occupy the summit of a lofty platform of rock, rising nearly 300 ft. above the town and river. A natural escarpment surrounds it on 3 sides; where the cliff was not naturally

vertical, it has been cut away, and huge walls of smooth masonry have been built up from below to a level with the top of the cliff, so as to render it hopeless, before the days of gunpowder, to scale or batter such a fortress. Between the river and the rock crouch the buildings of the town. Behind the castle, in a deep hollow, runs the road to Tours, originally commanded by the castle's embrasures; and a deep gully or fosse is cut through the rock on the 4th side, to isolate the promontory from the ridge of which it forms the termination.

Several of the tall flanking towers remain tolerably perfect; the rest is all crumbling walls. The 3 divisions into which the castle was separated by deep dry ditches may still be made out. In the central division, above the entrance on which rises the tall Donjon, the only part now inhabited, are shown the royal apartments; and among them that in which Joan the Maid, the simple shepherdess of Domrémy, recognised Charles the Dauphin, though disguised in plain attire, and, singling him out from among the crowd of courtiers, led him apart to the recess of the window, where she unfolded to him "secrets known only to himself and to God." The scene of that interview, and of the splendours of the court of the careless and luxurious Charles, whom even the loss of a kingdom could not recall from indolence and pleasure, was until lately a ruin open to the sky, with one or two transoms remaining in the windows, and a few traces of paint upon the walls. Close to it is a very deep square tower of the 13th cent., adjoining one of the ditches, and without openings, said to have been the Oublieettes into which prisoners were cast, but more probably Latrines.

Crossing a bridge into the 3rd court, we find around it the towers of *la Glacière*, in which Jacques de Molay, Grand Master of the Templars, is said to have been confined; the *Tour du Moulin*, so called because it was surmounted by a windmill, standing at the farthest extremity, and of very solid structure; and the *Tour d'Argentau*, from which, as the story goes, a secret passage led beyond the walls to the Maison Robardeau, the retreat of Agnes Sorel. Among all these fragments, the only trace of the original Norman castle is to be found in the round tower du Moulin; the rest seem not older than the 15th century.

The view from the walls extends for a long distance up and down the fertile valley,—"a glowing and glorious prospect; a green expanse of groves and vineyards all blending into one,"—with the winding Vienne sparkling and flashing among the green meadows, or foliage of poplars, walnut-trees, and vines, nearly as far as its junction with the Loire. Fontevrault (Rte. 58), the last resting-place of Henry II. and of the Lion-hearted Richard, is concealed from view by intervening heights.

There is not much worth noticing in the town of Chinon itself. The *Ch. of St. Mexme* (M. H.), on the E. side of the town, now a school, dates from the 10th to the 14th cents. The W. front, of the 11th cent., rises between two towers, one of which contains a remarkable *fresco*, the Last Judgment, of the 15th cent. Between this ch. and the handsome modern *Hotel de Ville* is the *Ch. of St. Étienne*, of the 15th cent., containing some interesting monumental slabs. No tradition is preserved of the hostelry in which the Pucelle was lodged on her arrival from her native village, and where she was kept two days before she could obtain admission to the king, until his councillors had ascertained whether she was a sorceress. Nor can the ch. be pointed out in which she spent the greater part of each day in prayer while she resided here. It was at Chinon that she first received from the king her suit of knight's armour, and an escort of a squire, a confessor, and 2 pages. Here she first girt on the mysterious sword (supposed to have been that of Abderraman, taken by Charles Martel at the defeat of the Moors) found in the ch. of St. Catherine of Fierbois, and here she unfurled her white banner sprinkled with fleurs-de-lis, made expressly under the direction of her mysterious "voices."

The rocks behind the town, underneath the castle, have been extensively quarried for ages to supply building materials; these excavations are called *Les Valains*, and contain some fine stalactites.

Rabelais was born 1483, in the farm-house called *la Devinière*, in the commune of Seuilly, a little way on the l. of the road to Saumur, on the opposite side of the Vienne. He commenced his education in the school of the neighbouring abbey, whose monks he afterwards ridiculed in his writings. An old house at the corner of the Rue de Lamproie at Chinon is pointed out as his residence.

[It is a delightful drive of 19 m. from Chinon to *Saumur* in Rte. 58, through a country teeming with fertility, amongst orchards, and walnut groves, and acacia hedges, while beneath the fruit-trees springs up a crop of corn, without exhausting the soil. The valley of the Vienne terminates at Candes, remarkable for its fine ch. (Rte. 58), where that river falls into the Loire; and our road, emerging upon its l. bank, is carried along it, through most pleasing scenery.]

The *Rly.* continues S.W. to

17 m. *Loudun* Junct. Stat. (*Inn:* H. de France), a town of 4500 Inhab., on a hill. In the neighbourhood is the *Château de la Batie*, partly of the 16th cent. [Branch *Rly.* N. to *Saumur* in Rte. 58; S. to *Poitiers* in Rte. 64.]

16 m. *Thouars* Stat. (*Inn:* H. du Cheval Blanc) (2622 Inhab.), beautifully situated on a hill, with the river Thouet running round it at a very considerable depth, so as to give it the appearance of an island. Here is a very fine *château* (M. H.), which belonged to the family of La Tremouille, and was built under Louis XIII. It was sold at the Revolution, and was to have been pulled down, but the town authorities purchased it; it is now the Mairie. The Romanesque *Ch. of St. Médard* dates from the 12th cent.; the front is handsomely decorated with images of saints, but all mutilated.

19 m. *Bressuire* Junct. Stat. (Buffet) (*Inn:* H. de France), a new town (Pop. 3389) built on the site of one ruined by the disastrous Vendéan war. The *Ch.* (M. H.) has a tall spire. 5 m. off is *Clissé*, once a seat of the Lescures, now of the Larochejacquelins. A modern château replaces that burned down by the troops of the Republic under Westerman. The small Gothic chapel alone is old.

[*Rly.* N. to *Angers;* S. to *Niort*, see Rte. 61.]

53 m. **La Roche-sur-Yon** Junct. Stat. (Buffet) (*Inns:* H. de l'Europe; H. du Pelican, both comfortless), a town of right-angled streets and fresh-looking houses, founded by Napoleon in 1808, in the centre of the rebellious province La Vendée, first called Napoléon-Vendée, altered under the Restoration to Bourbon-Vendée, is now the chief town of the Dépt. de la Vendée. La Roche-sur-Yon, an ancient appanage of the Bourbons, occupied nearly the same site, and, united with it, forms a suburb. It has 8841 Inhab. Destitute of commerce or manufactures, in a situation deficient in any advantages required to render a town flourishing, in the midst of a district of barren open heath, it is about the dullest town in France. "It is exactly what one might expect it would be from the hasty and arbitrary manner of its creation. A huge oblong 'Place' forms the centre and principal part of it. From the sides and corners of this 8 or 10 streets branch off at right angles. The buildings which compose this square are almost all public edifices, each looking more mesquin and meagre than the other, and all having the appearance of being stretched out at the least possible expense to the greatest possible extent of front, for the purpose of making them go as far as possible towards the composition of the proposed town. A *theatre*, on the steps of whose portico the grass was growing, forms part of one side. A huge *Hôtel de Ville*, which seems deserted and shut up, stands opposite to a great barn of a church. A *préfecture*, a court-house, a mairie, and enormous barracks, surrounding a court in which a dozen

regiments might manœuvre at once, occupy the most of the remaining space. The barracks have been constructed so much in haste and with so little solidity that they are already beginning to fall to ruins—new ruins, the most unsightly spectacle. They are deserted, and apparently abandoned to their fate."—*Trollope, W. France.*

[*Rly.* N. to *Nantes*; S. to *La Rochelle*, see Rte. 62.]

[About 4 m. to the W. are the ruins of the *Abbaye de Fontanelles*; a Gothic chapel remains in excellent preservation.]

From La Roche-sur-Yon the rly. continues S.W. to

23 m. **Les Sables d'Olonne** Stat. (*Inns:* Grand H. de la Plage; H. de France, fair, and civil people). This is a town of some interest (Pop. 8292), curiously placed on a narrow sand-ledge, at the margin of a bay forming a large crescent. The sands are smooth and extensive, and there are numerous lodging-houses for the bathers attracted here. A fleet of fishing-vessels may be seen at times entering the roads, sweeping from the sea into a deep narrow channel between two piers, and so entering the large harbour at the back of the town. The capture of sprats, young herrings, and young pilchards, for curing as sardines, forms an important part of the business of the place. There are two peculiarities in the female costume here,—a small bell-shaped laced cap, and an enormous blue hood of cloth-shreds or wool, giving to the upper part of their persons the form of a beehive.

8 m. E. of Sables is the village of *Talmont*, with a very picturesque feudal castle.

ROUTE 58.

THE LOIRE: TOURS TO ANGERS, BY SAUMUR—RAIL.

Tours.	Kil.	Miles.
Cinq Mars.	18	11
Port Boulet	44	27
Saumur	61	37½
La Menitré	82	51
Angers	105	65½

5 trains daily, in 2 to 3 hrs.

The prettiest part of the course of the Loire lies below Tours, in the neighbourhood of Saumur, and thence to Nantes. For some distance below Tours, however, its banks continue low, and its bed, everywhere too large for its stream, is left bare and unsightly in summer. In winter the river sometimes rises 20 ft. above its ordinary level; and from these irregularities it is unfit for the permanent establishment of water-mills or manufactories on its banks. It is confined on both sides by embankments as far as Angers.

[The *carriage-road* is on the rt. bank, along the Levée, or river dyke, often on a level with the tops of the houses and cottages, which, together with the fertile fields, orchards, gardens, and vineyards, it protects from the inundations of the Loire, commanding, both on the river and land side, an extensive view].

Tours is described in Rte. 53.

The Rly. runs W., following the l. bank of the Loire to

7 m. *Savonnières* Stat. [On the hill beyond the Loire, on its rt. bank, is seen

Luynes, a town of 2047 Inhab., at the opening of a valley on the N. of the Loire, backed by a limestone cliff, pierced with numerous cave dwellings, on the top of which stands the *Castle*, commanding the country around. It was the residence of the seigneurs of Luynes, and among them of the first duke, the favourite of Louis XIII. and Constable of France, who gave his

name to the castle and town, previously called Maillé, 1619. Not far off are the ruins of an *aqueduct* (M. H.), said to be Roman, of which nearly 50 piers and 8 arches remain. Luynes was the birthplace of Paul Louis Courrier, the political writer; he was found shot near his own residence, Veretz, on the banks of the Cher, not far from here, 1825.]

The rly. crosses the Loire on a bridge of 19 arches before reaching

4 m. *Cinq Mars* Stat., or, more correctly, St. Mars, since the name is supposed to be a corruption of Campus Martius. Near this village, whose ruined castle gave a title to another favourite of Louis XIII., who fell under the executioner's axe during the relentless rule of Cardinal Richelieu, is the curious monument called *La Pile de Cinq Mars*, a square brick tower, 95 ft. high and 13 ft. wide on each face, surmounted originally by 5 pinnacles, one of which was thrown down by a storm 1751. It is probably a Roman work of the 3rd or 4th cent., attached to a Camp or Station, whose *Castellum* was the neighbouring castle of Foulques Nera at Langeais, where a Norman edifice was raised on Roman foundations. It is destitute of door, window, or other opening, and is perfectly solid. On the S. face the bricks are arranged in a pattern so as to form 12 compartments. It may have been a funereal monument.

The traveller continues to pass entire villages, cut in the yellow chalk rock, or *tuffeau*, whenever it rises into cliffs favourable for human habitations.

The Cher, after running parallel with the Loire for about 15 m., enters it a little above Cinq Mars, but sends off a branch which continues to run parallel with it until it joins the Indre, 9 m. lower down.

3 m. *Langeais* Stat., a town of 3604 Inhab., with a *Ch.* (M. H.) dating from 1118. The **Château* (M. H.), in which took place the marriage of Charles VIII. with Anne of Brittany (1491)—an event which united that important province to France—is well preserved. It was commenced in the 13th cent. by Pierre de Brosse, minister of Philippe le Hardi, after having been barber to his predecessor, St. Louis. He ended his career on the gibbet of Montfaucon, being hung for high treason in poisoning his master's son, and accusing the queen of the crime. Jean Bourré, minister of Louis XI., completed the building in the 15th cent. The apartments contain a good collection of pictures, old furniture, statues, armour, tapestry, the bed of Anne of Brittany, &c. From the terrace fine view over the valley of the Loire. On the l. of the castle are the ruins of a rectangular *Donjon*, part of the original building erected here, about 992, by Foulques Nerra, Count of Anjou.

6 m. *St. Patrice* Stat. Near this is the *Château of Rochecotte*, where the Chouan leader of that name was born; it belonged subsequently to the Duchesse de Dino, or Talleyrand, who was often visited here by her uncle, the Prince de Talleyrand, of whom it contains interesting memorials. On the Duchess's death it passed to her relative the Duchess of Montmorency.

Nearly opposite this, backed by a wooded hill, is the *Château d'Usse* (M. H.), belonging to one of the family of Larochejacquelin. It was partly rebuilt in the 16th cent., and portions subsequently added by Vauban, one of whose daughters had married into the family (de Valentinay) then owning it. Visitors not admitted.

4 m. *La Chapelle sur Loire* Stat.

The Loire is crossed by a wire suspension-bridge of 5 spans, leading to

Candes, opposite to which place we pass from Touraine into Anjou.

The river Vienne here empties itself into the Loire.

8 m. *Port Boulet* Stat. Omnibus to *Chinon*, 8 m. S. up the valley of the Vienne (Rte. 57).

The approach to Saumur is marked by the number of windmills on the heights, below which stands the domed *Ch. of Notre Dame des Ardilliers*. Beneath its cupola runs an inscription celebrating the suppression of heresy throughout his dominions, and the expulsion of its followers, by Louis XIV.;

a subject rather of shame than of boast, on a spot which suffered in turn the massacre of St. Bartholomew, the atrocities of the Dragonnades, and finally ruin from the revocation of the Edict of Nantes.

The convent attached to this ch. is now the *Hospice de la Providence*, attended by Sisters of Charity: a portion of the patients, including the insane, are lodged in cells and vast dormitories in the cliff behind.

In La Croix Verte, a suburb of Saumur, at the extremity of the bridge opposite to the town, is situated the

6 m. **Saumur** Junct. Stat. (Buffet) (*Inns:* H. d'Anjou; H. Budan; H. de Blois: both facing the river; H. de Londres; H. de France; H. Belvédère, on the quay). A very pleasant light effervescing wine grown in the vicinity may be had here.

This cheerful white town of 13,663 Inhab. is one of the most picturesque on the Loire. Seen from the river or the bridge, its quaint Hôtel de Ville, near the water-side, surmounted by a tent-like roof and pinnacled turrets, its church spires and towers, overhung by the castle behind, have a very pleasing effect. The town itself, however, is dull, and it does not possess many objects of interest. There are two fine bridges across the Loire. This Protestant town enjoys the monopoly of making *Rosaries* (*chapelets*).

On the quay which borders the river stands a modern edifice which combines theatre and market-house, and the antique *Hôtel de Ville* of the 16th cent., a square building of black and white stone, with a peaked roof, a cornice of trefoiled machicolations running under it, and turrets or bartizans in its corners. It was anciently included in the fortifications, and joined the town walls, and, therefore, has few openings in the lower part. The front towards the court-yard has not the same castellated character, but is enriched with florid Gothic ornaments, very elegant, restored, and enlarged by the addition of an edifice in the same style by a talented native architect, M. Joly. The upper storey is converted into a *Museum*. The part of its limited collection which will interest the traveller are the *antiquities* found in the department; such as Roman vases, statues, spear-heads, axes, &c., of bronze; a complete set of Roman carpenter's tools, Roman weights, glass, cinerary urns (30 of them dug up in one spot), pottery, &c. But its chief curiosity is a Roman trumpet of bronze, 5 ft. long. Among the Celtic remains are several stone axes, dug from under one of the Dolmens in the neighbourhood, and a knife of flint, from that in the Bois Berard.

St. Pierre, the principal ch., in the centre of the town, is disfigured by a modern Italian façade, and its massive tower is surmounted by a recent spire. It is in the Pointed style. Its interior, originally built without aisles, in the Angevine fashion, has had side chapels added.

More curious for its age and architecture is the *Ch. of Notre Dame de Nantilly*, on the outskirts of the town. The oldest parts, the N. side, the nave, and E. apse, in the Norman style, although supposed to date from the 5th or 6th, cannot be older than the 11th cent. The S. aisle is an addition of the 15th, nearly as wide as the nave itself; the pillars between are the old buttresses. The roof of the nave is slightly pointed, with plate-bands running across from pier to pier. In the S. aisle is the oratory of Louis XI. Against one of the piers is a bas-relief of St. John the Baptist preaching in the wilderness. The ch. is hung with antique tapestries, probably of the 16th cent., productions of Flanders, if we may judge by the style of art. In one, representing the siege of Jerusalem, a soldier appears to be discharging an instrument like a matchlock, but all the others are armed with bows and arrows. In this ch. are buried Gilles Archbishop of Tyre, keeper of the seals to St. Louis, whose crozier is preserved here.

The *Castle*, standing conspicuously on the top of the ridge which rises like a wall above the town (Sous-le-mur is a fanciful derivation of its

name), is only worth visiting for the view, from its terraced bastions, over the valley of the Loire. The tall *Donjon*, circular below, octagonal above, and flanked by four turrets, now a magazine for powder and small-arms, is not shown to visitors.

Duplessis Mornay, the Protestant leader, was appointed governor by Henri IV., and under his prudent care Saumur became a stronghold of the Protestants, and a flourishing town of 25,000 Inhab. The revocation of the Edict of Nantes annihilated its prosperity, by expelling the industrious Huguenots, reducing its population to *one-fourth*.

One of the greatest exploits of the Vendéan army was the capture of Saumur (June 10, 1793) by storming the heights, on which the Republican army, 15,000 strong, had formed an intrenched camp, defended by 100 pieces of artillery. Henri de Larochejacquelin forced the intrenchments of the town from the side of the meadows of Varen, exciting his followers to the capture of a redoute by throwing his hat, conspicuous for its white plume, into the midst of the enemy, crying, "Qui va me le chercher?"—an appeal not lost upon his followers, especially when enforced by his own example in taking the lead. Foremost of his band, with only 60 of his men to back him, he burst his way into the town, clearing the streets as far as the bridge. Here, seizing two cannon, he turned them against the enemy, drove them across the river, and on the road towards Tours, thus separating them from the garrison of the castle, which surrendered on the day following. The Vendéans obtained this victory with a loss of only 60 killed and 100 wounded, and with a gain of 60 pieces of cannon, 10,000 muskets, and 11,000 prisoners, who were released after having one side of their head shaved, and promising not to serve against the Royalists—humane conditions, contrasting strongly with the atrocious system of massacring their prisoners, already adopted by the Republicans at the command of the Convention.

Detached from the town, to the S.W., on the rt. hand on issuing out of the main street, is the *Ecole de Cavalerie*, for instruction in all branches suited to their profession: it can receive between 3000 and 4000 subaltern officers, who are drafted hence into different regiments to instruct their corps. There are large *riding-schools*, in which the various exercises are performed.

Some remains of the old fortifications may be seen in the Rue du Petit Mail; they consist of two feudal towers and a prison-house. In the quartier *des Ponts*, the suburb which fills the island on which the bridge rests, is a house built by King René, and called *Maison de la Reine Cicile* (de Sicile). Its once highly ornamented front, of the 15th cent., has been so deplorably defaced that it retains little interest.

Within about 1½ m. of Saumur, on the S., stands the largest and best preserved Dolmen in France, the **Dolmen of Bagneux* (M. H.). It is a chamber composed of huge blocks of unhewn stone set upright to form the walls, with others laid across them for a roof, in the manner of a house of cards. This rude cot measures 64 ft. in length, yet consists of only 14 stones, 4 on each of the sides and on the roof, one at the W. end, which is closed, another at the E., now thrown down, serving as a threshold to the present entrance, formed by bricking up the mouth. The largest block measures 24 ft. by 21 ft., and 2¾ thick. The stones are set so close, that originally a man could not force his body between them. They are of the sandstone found in this district, but not near at hand. Among the adjoining vineyards stands an upright stone, also of Celtic origin. Not ½ hour's drive from Saumur, on rt. of road to Poée in going to the larger Dolmen, another *pierre-couverte* is passed, formed of only 6 stones, in the manner of Kit's Coity House in Kent. The road to these Druidic stones, on issuing out of Saumur, crosses the small river Thoue by a handsome new bridge of 3 segmental

arches, called Pont Fouchard, thence by cross roads proceeds to the village of Bagneux, beyond which they are situated.

[Branch *Rly.* from Saumur, S., through *Loudun*, in Rte. 57, to *Poitiers*, in Rte. 64].

[The **Abbaye de Fontevrault** is about 10 m. distant, or 1½ hr.'s drive by omnibus, by a road along the l. bank of the Loire, passing, but at some distance, the pretty town of *Candes*, where St. Martin of Tours breathed his last. It stands on the Vienne, just above its junction with the Loire. It has an interesting ch., of which the apsidal choir is of the 12th cent.; and the nave of the 13th (1215). Its S. porch is remarkable, though much mutilated; 14 statues in trefoil-headed niches adorn the façade, with smaller niches below them filled with heads. The porch itself is a vestibule supported by a light central column, in the manner of the chapter-houses of English cathedrals. The W. end is flanked on either side by a machicolated buttress, and includes a circular window, now closed. The tomb of St. Martin, with his effigy, is shown in this ch. The possession of his remains was warmly contested between the inhabitants of Poitou and Touraine.

A small brook alone separates Candes from *Montsoreau*, whose *castle*, now parcelled out among poor people, was the seat of that cruel Comte de Montsoreau who became the executioner of the Protestants of Anjou by carrying out the sanguinary decrees of Charles IX.

3 m. up the little retired and wooded valley behind Montsoreau lies the town of *Fontevrault* (*Inn:* H. de la Croix Blanche), Pop. 3581, and the *Abbey of Fontevrault*, in ancient times one of the richest in France, where 150 nuns and 70 monks submitted to the rule of an abbess, who was always a lady of high degree. This singular establishment, which thus united members of both sexes, was founded by Robert d'Arbrissel, a Breton monk, in 1099; who by his powerful preaching converted and led after him a multitude of followers of both sexes, amounting to 3000, whom he at length settled here, in a sequestered forest, on the borders of Touraine and Anjou. In spite of the scope for scandal, the convent maintained its existence for 9 centuries, down to the French Revolution. It has a particular interest to Englishmen, from having been the burial-place of our earliest Plantagenet monarchs.

The *Abbaye* is now converted into a prison (Maison Centrale de Détention); one of the largest in France, covering 30 or 40 acres with its courts and ranges of building, occupied by 1500 men and boys; the entrance is from the little *Place* close to the inn. It can be seen on application to the Mayor of the town or the Director of the prison. Above the abbey building rises a singular *octagon*, which was the (?) *Kitchen* of the monastery,* called *la Tour d'Evrault* (M. H.); it dates from the 12th cent. It nearly resembles in form and construction the well-known Abbatial kitchen at Glastonbury.

The *Church* (M. H.), approached by a covered way, from which one looks through loopholes into the prison-yards, is an interesting building of the 12th cent. It was consecrated by Calixtus II. in 1119, and is supposed to have been partly built by Foulques, 5th Comte d'Anjou, who made it the burying-place of his family, as it afterwards became that of Henry II., who, as descended from the Conqueror, became King of England, and first of our Plantagenet line of sovereigns. It is in the form of a Roman cross, the nave covered by 4 domes without aisles, the transepts short, having 2 chapels; the choir ending in an apse with 3 apsidal chapels. Its nave is now partitioned off, and, by the introduction of 2 floors, is converted into dormitories for the prisoners. The *Royal monuments* have been removed to the S. transept, inclosed by bolts and bars and railings, and badly preserved, in a dark corner, mutilated and broken by the Vandals of

* It is described in Turner's 'Domestic Architecture.'

the Revolution, who rifled the graves of their contents, and scattered the royal ashes to the winds. The royal effigies, in spite of the injuries they received, are interesting from their evidently being portraits; they retain still a little of the colouring with which they were ornamented. They consist of recumbent statues of Henry II. and Richard Cœur-de-Lion, in their royal robes; the draperies of complicated execution. Richard is remarkable for his lofty stature (6½ ft.) and broad forehead; he wears moustache and a beard; his hair is cut short. The two female effigies are in better preservation; they represent Eleanore de Guienne, queen of Henry II., who brought him one-third of France, and who died here; and Isabelle d'Angoulême, widow of King John, who ended her days as a nun at Fontevrault; the last a statue of considerable beauty. All these figures, except that of Eleanore, which is in wood, are in sandstone of the country. The body of Henry II. was brought hither from the royal residence at Chinon, and laid in the sanctuary previously to interment. When Richard, his undutiful son, approached, the corpse is said to have shuddered convulsively, and to have sweated drops of blood while he remained in its presence; "the very corpse, as it were, abhorring and accusing him of his unnatural conduct." The Cloisters and *Chapter-house*, a fine hall with old wall-paintings, are also preserved. At a short distance from the abbey is a sepulchral chapel, called *La Lanterne des Morts*.

12 m. on the road to Parthenay (Rte. 60) is *Montreuil-Bellay* (*Inn*: H. Galerie), Pop. 2054, having at the N.E. angle of the town a *castle* of 15th cent., well restored, and worth a visit.

Souzé, a little below Montsoreau, contains a castellated mansion, behind which are vast excavations in the rock, which is pierced through and through like a rabbit warren to furnish dwellings for people of the poorer sort.

Still lower down is the picturesque château of *Dampierre*, where Margaret of Anjou ended in misery a life of ambition and sorrow, in a house granted to her by Louis XI., who had ransomed her at the price of 50,000 crowns from the hands of Edw. IV., after 5 years of imprisonment subsequent to the battle of Tewkesbury.

Anne Lefèvre, who became Madame Dacier, the learned translator of Homer, was born at Saumur, 1651.

The whiteness of the houses about Saumur is remarkable, and arises from the pure colour of the stone, which, being readily cut, is formed into smooth, nicely jointed masonry, and gives even to humble cottages the aspect of villas. They add much to the pleasing character of the country, peering from amidst the luxuriant foliage. Acacia hedges, vines, and walnut-trees, with orchards and rich crops of corn, cover this really beautiful district, upon which all the bounties of nature seem to have been lavished.

The village of *Tuffeau* receives its name from its quarries of loose limestone, worked into vast subterranean catacombs, which have furnished building materials for the surrounding district.

Trèves is conspicuous owing to its pretty high Gothic tower. It was built by Foulques d'Anjou, 1016, and given by Charles VII. to his Chancellor Robert-le-Maçon, for saving his life at the capture of Paris by the Burgundians: it is carefully kept up by its present owner. Not far off is the *Ch. of Cunault*, attributed to King Dagobert, and, though not of his time, at least of great antiquity (11th to 13th cent.).]

Leaving Saumur, the rly., following the Loire, passes by

10 m. *Les Rosiers* Stat. [1. Nearly opposite, the very ancient *Ch.* of Gennes rises on the top of a hill: it is dedicated to St. Eusebius, and is said to have been used by the early Christians. The ruined nave, of about the 8th cent., is built of small stones, alternating with bands of tiles in the fashion of Roman masonry. The N. door is arched with bricks intermingled with stones, and in the wall above is a row of small semicircular arches. Gennes lies in a pretty situation, on a streamlet called Avort.]

3 m. *La Menitré* Stat.

[On the opposite side of the Loire are the ruins of the abbey of *St. Maur*, the vast conventual buildings of which, of the 12th to the 17th cent., deserve to be looked upon with respect as the retreat of those learned and laborious Benedictine monks who, in the 17th cent., under the patronage of Richelieu, 1621, compiled those stores of learning and erudition,—'L'Art de vérifier les Dates,'—the 'Gallia Christiana,'—the Collection of French Historians—the Monumental Antiquities, &c. "Works of general and permanent advantage to the world at large; showing that the revenues of the Benedictines were not always spent in self-indulgence, and that the members of that order did not uniformly slumber in sloth and indolence."—*Sir W. Scott.* Among the most eminent names which distinguished this society of learned monks were Felibien, Montfaucon, Vaissette, Lobineau, and Mabillon.]

A wire bridge of 5 openings has been constructed at

3 m. *St. Mathurin* Stat. At *Daguénière*, a little lower, the *Levées de la Loire* terminate, after running by the river-side from Blois, a distance of nearly 100 m.

Near this the rly. turns away from the Loire, and rejoins it about 20 m. lower down.

7 m. *Trélazé* Stat. Vast slate quarries. *Ardoisières d'Angers* (see Rte. 46).

[On l. of Trélazé, but upon the carriage-road, is the town of *Les Ponts de Cé*, of 3557 Inhab., on the rt. bank of the Loire, here 2 m. wide, the river being split into numerous channels by intervening islands. The two banks have been connected by 4 bridges of wood and stone, very inconvenient for boats passing under, and for the vehicles that traverse them. Ponts de Cè is 4 m. from Angers; it has always formed an important military position. It witnessed a sanguinary combat between the Royalists and Republicans in 1793.

About 7 m. S.E. of Ponts de Cè is *Brissac*. (*Inn*: H. de la Poste, dirty and dear.) The *Château* is the seat of the ancient family of that name, consisting of a handsome Italian villa, between two older castellated round towers, of such solid construction that it was found impossible to remove them when the centre was built; they were in consequence amalgamated with it. It is conspicuous for the red colour of the stone. The general effect of its façade is stately and good, but the carvings have been mutilated. The château was ransacked and dismantled during the Vendéan war, and returned a mere shell to the Duc de Brissac at the Restoration. It is still uninhabited.]

4 m. **Angers** Junct. Stat. (Rte. 46).

ROUTE 59.

ANGERS TO NANTES—THE LOIRE—RAIL.

	Kil.	Miles.
Angers		
La Possonnière	16	10
Ingrandes	34	21
Varades	42	26
Ancenis	55	34
Nantes	88	55

8 trains daily, in 2 to 3 hours.

ANGERS is described in Rte. 46.

The rly. after leaving Angers crosses the *Maine* near

5 m. *La Pointe* Stat., where are numerous villas and walled gardens of the citizens of Angers.

Below the junction of the Maine the Loire is sensibly augmented in expanse and depth, and its banks attain a more considerable elevation than above, rising into hills, often in abrupt precipices, from the water's edge. One of these heights, called *La Coulée de Serrant*, is clothed with vines, the growth of which is much esteemed. The *Château de Serrant*, the mansion of Count Walsh, is one of the finest on the Loire, and is situated 3 m. from the river, between it and the road to Nantes. Its gardens, park, and orangery are well kept up. In the chapel is a marble monument by Coysevoix to the

Marquis de Vaubrun, killed at the passage of the Rhine. The family of Walsh is of Irish origin, having emigrated with James II. A portrait of the Pretender, still in their possession, was a gift from him to their ancestor, who fitted out the vessel which conveyed Charles Edward from Nantes to Scotland in 1745.

The pretty wooded *Ile de Béhuard* contains a *chapel* of Our Lady, founded on a rock, whose uneven surface forms its floor, and projects upwards in a point 4 or 5 ft. high. It was for ages a place of pilgrimage, and was visited with superstitious veneration by Louis XI., whose faded portrait, a contemporary work in fresco, remains on the wall. Both he and his son lavished on it considerable gifts. By accident it was forgotten at the Revolution, and remains undespoiled, retaining many ex-votos, some church-plate, &c. Its walls, still displaying the fleurs-de-lis and other coats of arms with which they were painted, are hung with the chains of Christian captives rescued from Algiers.

2 m. *Les Forges* Stat., opposite the influx of the Maine into the Loire.

2 m. *La Possonnière* Junct. Stat. (Buffet), near which is the town of *Savenières*, the ch. of which is interesting, some parts of it probably as old as the 6th or 7th cent.; the choir and apse of the 11th or 12th.

[The *rly.* to Niort by Cholet and Bressuire branches off here on l. (Rte. 61).]

4 m. *St. Georges* Stat., a picturesque town of 2600 Inhab., surmounted by the square tower of its castle. Near here is a small *coalfield*, which has been worked to a considerable extent of late, though it produces an inferior quality of coal. This bed, extensively developed throughout the Dépt. de Maine et Loire, occurs at the bottom of the true coal formation, and is fit only for burning lime; but that lime, being employed as manure, has converted much barren land into cornfields, and this part of France, since 1849, into a granary whose surplus contributes to supply Great Britain with wheat. At Chalonnes another suspension-bridge has been thrown over the Loire, connecting it with Savenières.

The eminence on the l. bank, crowned with a modern-looking ruin, through whose numerous windows and roofless walls the sky appears, is Mont Jan; whose name, according to etymologists, has something to do with Janus, though they cannot exactly agree what the connection is. The ruins are those of a convent of Cordeliers: it had been converted into a sort of state prison, of which the friars were the gaolers; it was burnt during the Vendéan war.

5 m. *Champtocé* Stat., a village opposite Mont Jan, is surmounted by the imposing ruins of a feudal castle, celebrated from the crimes of its owner in the reign of Charles VII., Gilles de Retz, a monster in human form, the bugbear of the surrounding country, called Barbe Bleu, and the original of our well-known *Blue Beard*. His history affords a remarkable instance of the superstitions of the 15th cent., and of the impunity for his atrocities which a feudal seigneur enjoyed in that age. Having run through an enormous fortune by extravagance, and impaired his health by excesses in his youth, this Sieur de Retz sought to renovate both by magic. He kept in his pay an Italian alchemist and magician, who induced him to believe that a charm could be produced from the blood of infants, which would restore him to health and fortune by using it as a bath. For this end children and young persons were spirited away and murdered in the deep dungeons of his castles or in the solitude of his forests, to the number, it is said, of more than 100; he, himself, in most cases, plunging the poignard in their breasts. At length the whole country rose up against the monster; and his suzerain, Duke Jean V. of Brittany, having heard the charges against him, caused him to be seized and tried: he was found guilty, condemned, and burnt at the stake in Nantes in 1440, after making full confession of his misdeeds. The peasant still regards with horror the ill-omened

walls and vaults in which the monster raised the demon, and sold himself to Satan, according to the popular belief.

3 m. *Ingrandes* Stat., a long line of houses raised upon a terraced wall stretching along the river, is on the boundary of ancient Brittany and Anjou, the modern Départements of La Loire Inférieure and Maine et Loire. The name was originally "Ingressus Andium," the entrance of the country of the Andes, *i.e.* the Angevines.

At *Montrelais* are extensive coal-mines, some of the pits extending under the river. The coal, of inferior quality, is used chiefly for burning lime.

5 m. *Varades* Stat., opposite which are The heights of *St. Florent*, marked by two piles of building; the vast but not picturesque ruins of the Abbey of Montglonne, whose foundation has been traced to Charlemagne, and which was burnt down by the Republicans in the Vendéan war; and a little below it the church of St. Florent, surmounted by a modern-looking tower, by the side of which rises a *Pillar* to the memory of the Vendéan general, Bonchamps. Wounded mortally in the fatal fray of Chollet, he was brought hither by the routed Vendéans. He closed his career with an act of mercy in saving the lives of 4000 Republican prisoners, who had been taken and shut up in the church, and against whom the irritated Vendéans were already pointing their cannon, worked up to madness by defeat, by the mortal wound of their general, and by terror for their wives and families. The commands and entreaties of the dying hero, and nearly the last words he uttered—"Grâce aux prisonniers"—had the effect of preventing their military execution, when nothing else could have rescued them. Bonchamps expired in the island of Meilleraye, on the opposite side of the Loire, but is interred in the ch. of St. Florent, where a monument in marble by David d'Angers has been erected to his memory. St. Florent was the scene of the most memorable event in the war of La Vendée, which all who have read Madame Larochejacquelin's Memoirs will remember—the passage of the Loire by the Vendéan army after their rout at Chollet, 1793. They reached the narrow strip of level ground at the base of the semicircle of heights on the l. bank, in number nearly 100,000, half of them unarmed, old men, women, and children; the enemy pressing on in the rear, the country behind smoking with the conflagration of their homes by the Republicans, who, to use their own words, "left behind nothing but ashes and piles of dead." The tumult of such a multitude crowding down to the 25 small barks which alone could be mustered to ferry them over, the cries of children seeking parents or relations, the groans of the wounded, the alarm caused by the enemy, formed a scene of pain, confusion, and despair, which Madame de Larochejacquelin compares with the awful spectacle that the world must behold at the Day of Judgment. The whole multitude, however, were transported across in safety before the arrival of the enemy, whose advanced posts reached the river the day after.

4 m. *Anetz* Stat.

4 m. **Ancenis** Stat. (*Inn:* H. de France; small, but comfortable), 4148 Inhab. Here a *suspension-bridge*, supported by wire stays, of 5 openings, crosses the Loire, more than 1300 ft. long, leading to La Vendée. There are remains of a castle of the Ducs de Béthune at the water-side, above the bridge, now reduced to a few ruined walls and towers. The large barracks have been formed out of a suppressed convent of Ursuline nuns.

Near this a remnant of the Vendéan host, which had crossed at Varades, endeavoured to recross a few weeks after, shattered by the recent defeat at Le Mans. Larochejacquelin, on this occasion, volunteered to pass the river in the only boat which could be found on the l. bank, to bring over some hay-barges moored on the opposite shore; but while so engaged he was attacked by the enemy and driven into the woods. A gunboat of

the enemy sunk the barges destined to transport his followers, and thus cut off all communication between them and their general.

On the top of a hill covered with brushwood on the l. bank of the Loire stand the ruins of the castle of *Champtoceaux*, in which Jean de Montfort was kept a prisoner by Marguerite de Clisson; and at the foot of the hill a bridge or pier of 2 arches projects into the river, designed by the owner of the fort above to facilitate the levying of toll on the vessels which passed.

6 m. *Oudon* Stat. The tall black octagonal tower, 5 storeys high, surmounted by machicolations, overlooks the flat land and a series of islands which here intersect the river. It was built probably in the 13th cent.

After passing a group of pseudo-castellated modern constructions, worthy of a tea-garden, and called after their founder, a citizen of Nantes, Les Folies Siffait, we reach the

2 m. *Clermont-sur-Loire* Stat. The *Castle* of Chateaugny of the 14th cent., on the top of an abrupt and lofty escarpment, forms one of the picturesque scenes on the Loire.

4 m. *Mauves* Stat., on a monotonous plain, out of the midst of which, in the distance, the towers of the cathedral of Nantes may be seen. 1 m. N. is the *Castle of Sailleraye*, rebuilt in the 17th cent., at a little distance from the river. It was visited in 1675 by Madame de Sévigné, who dates some of her letters from it. Its gardens were laid out by Le Nôtre. The apartment and portrait of Mad. de Sévigné are preserved; the mansion contains other portraits by Mignard, Le Brun, &c.

9 m. NANTES Junct. Stat. (Buffet) (Rte. 46) is at the E. end of the city, near the old castle and the Loire. Omnibuses and fiacres in abundance. The Terminus is a large and handsome building. There is a second Stat. for passengers going farther W., on the Quay, near the *Bourse*.

ROUTE 60.

NANTES TO POITIERS, BY CLISSON.

	Kil.	Miles.
Nantes to Clisson, Rail. .	24	15
„ Torfou . .	38	24
„ Mortagne . .	53	33
„ Châtillon . .	71	43
„ Bressuire . .	93	57
„ Parthenay . .	124	77
„ Ayron . . .	139	86
„ Poitiers . . .	164	109

This route is now seldom taken, as Poitiers can be reached much more expeditiously, although making a considerable détour, by rly. to Tours, and thence to Poitiers. For the *Rly.* to

15 m. **Clisson** Stat. see Rte. 62.

The road beyond Clisson offers mediocre interest, although it traverses sites rendered celebrated during the Vendéan war.

Leaving the *Rly.* the *road* passes over the hill on which is the little *Chapelle de toute Joie*, so called by a lord of Clisson who received on this spot the joyful news of the birth of a son, and built it in consequence.

The road from Clisson to Poitiers is part of a network of lines of communication formed to facilitate not only commercial intercourse, but the passage of troops. These, with the two lines of railway, have contributed more than anything else to alter the primitive state of society in this part of France. Clisson is on the margin of LA VENDÉE, which begins on the l. bank of the SÈVRE; but our road, running parallel with the river, skirts, but does not enter it. (See Introd. to Sect. III.)

9 m. *Torfou*, a village almost exclusively composed of new houses, the old having been destroyed in the civil war. One of the greatest victories of the Vendéan peasantry was gained on Sept. 19, 1793, near this over a Republican army superior in numbers by 10,000 men,—veterans and reputed

the best soldiers in France, and commanded by Kleber. A pillar set up on the road, about a mile beyond Torfou, at the junction of four highways, marks the battle-field. Its four sides bear the names of Charette, D'Elbée, Lescure, and Bonchamps, the Vendéan leaders who took part in it. The day would have been lost for the cause of the Royalists, soon after the action began, had not Lescure rallied around him 1700 peasants of the village of Echanbrognes, who stood the brunt of the assault for two hours, until the division of Bonchamps came up.

[About 4 m. from Torfou by the post-road, passing the column (where turn to rt.), is the *Castle of Tiffauges*, an extensive ruin on a table-land between the Sèvre and a small rivulet (la Crume). The donjon stood on the rocky height overlooking and commanding the gap through which the road to Les Herbiers is carried. The inner courts, now separated merely by a few ruined walls, are converted into corn-fields; but behind two cottages, in the midst of them, runs a pile of building skirting the brow of the cliff, originally occupied by the seigneur, more perfect than any other part. The most picturesque bit is a round tower projecting over the rivulet, containing a vaulted apartment and a spiral stair, probably of the 16th cent. Round the top runs a covered gallery, resting on the corbels of the machicolations. These chambers now serve as storerooms for farm produce; the inner wall is prettily draped with vines. By a little postern there is a path descending into the valley of the Crume. This castle is said to have been one of the residences of the notorious Gilles de Retz, the Bluebeard of the Loire (Rte. 59); it was dismantled by Card. Richelieu. A cotton-mill has been built under the castle. There is no inn.]

[Near St. Aubin is Larochejacquelin's castle *La Durbellière*, now deserted, having been burned by the Republicans. Henri de la Larochejacquelin was born here 1772. He and his brother Louis, and their friend Henri de Lescure, are buried in the *Ch. of St. Aubin*, where a marble monument bears medallion portraits of them, and is ornamented by 3 graceful statues, the work of Rauch and Tieck, the gift of an association of Prussian officers.]

9 m. *Mortagne*, on the Sèvre, was burnt down, like Torfou, in the Vendéan war, and has been since rebuilt. It was long the headquarters of the Royalist army.

Diligence to N.E. 8 m. *Cholet* Stat. on the rly. between Angers and Niort (see Rte. 61).

4 m. beyond Mortagne, at St. Laurent, our road quits the valley of the Sèvre, to ascend the high ground of La Vendée, on which stands

10 m. *Châtillon-sur-Sèvre* Stat. (See Rte. 61.)

14 m. *Bressuire* Junct. Stat. (See Rte. 57).

We now reach the verge of the *Bocage*, the most primitive part of La Vendée.

20 m. *Parthenay* (*Inn:* H. des Trois Piliers), a town of 4844 Inhab., though carried by storm by the Republican forces under Westerman, escaped destruction, and retains some fragments of antiquity, in the ruins of its *Castle*, the *Gate St. Jacques* (M.H.), and the *Ch. of St. Laurent*, *Ch. of Ste. Croix* (M. H.), and a fine portal of *Ch. of N. D. de la Coudre*, are all excellent works of the 12th cent. The town stands on the rt. bank of the Thoue, a tributary of the Loire, in a hilly district. About 2 m. S.W., at Parthenay le vieux, is a curious Romanesque *Ch.* (M.H.), given, in 1092, to the Abbey de la Chaise Dieu by the Seigneur of Parthenay. Our road enters Poitou before reaching the hamlet of *Chalandry*, 5 m. before

16 m. *Ayron.*

16 m. POITIERS. (Rte. 64.)

ROUTE 61.

ANGERS TO NIORT— RAIL.

Angers	Kil.	Miles.
La Possonnière	16	10
Chalonnes	22	13
Chemille	37	23
Cholet	59	37
Bressuire	106	66
St. Pompain	162	105
Niort	183	114

3 trains daily, in 5 to 6 hours.

This line passes through the heart of La Vendée and the Bocage, and completes the continuous line of rly. communication between Cherbourg, Bordeaux and the Pyrenees, avoiding the long détours by Tours and Paris.

The first part of the line, as far as

10 m. *La Possonnière* Junct. Stat. on the rly. from Angers to Nantes, is described in Rte. 59; here the rly. crosses the Loire and enters La Vendée.

3 m. *Chalonnes* Stat., a town of 6505 Inhab.

9 m. *Chemille* Stat., a town of 4414 Inhab.

13 m. **Cholet** Stat., a manufacturing town of 13,552 Inhab., entirely rebuilt since its destruction in the civil war. Two actions were fought in 1793; in the first of which the Vendéans lost one of their bravest leaders, M. Lescure, who was shot through the head, and in the second suffered a more fatal defeat, which, in fact, decided the war, and drove them across the Loire (see Rte. 59). Before this battle began, on the 13th of October, 1793, the whole Vendéan army heard mass by torchlight, performed by the curé of this parish. On the first attack, the peasants, who here, for the first time, marched in close column, succeeded in driving back the enemy, and a party, headed by Larochejacquelin and Stofflet, even captured a park of artillery; but a charge of the Republican cavalry, and an attack from the garrison of Mayenne, the so-called "invincibles," turned the scale; the Vendéans were utterly routed, and their best general, the brave Bonchamps, was carried off the field mortally wounded.

At a short distance from Nouaillé, on the road from Cholet to Saumur, a third leader of the Vendéans, Henri Larochejacquelin, fell, March 4, 1793. For a long time after the wreck of the Royalist cause, he had carried on a successful partisan warfare, issuing out from the fastnesses of the Forest of Vezins at the head of a few determined followers, and spreading dismay among the Republican outposts. He was shot by a grenadier, while in the act of offering him quarter. At his death the Convention could, for the first time, with truth, proclaim that La Vendée had ceased to exist. An apple-tree is pointed out as marking the spot where he fell.

Public conveyances from Cholet to 8 m. S.W. Mortagne in Rte. 60.

7 m. *Maulévrier* Stat. The *Ch. of St. Jean Baptiste* has some stained glass of the 13th cent.

6 m. *Châtillon-sur-Sèvre* Stat., destroyed except three houses, in the Vendéan war, now rebuilt. It was called Mauléon down to 1737. At the windmill, S. of the town, the peasants surprised and defeated Gen. Westerman at the head of 10,000 men. [An excellent road leads from this through a fine hilly country to Argenton and *Thouars* (Rte. 57).]

14 m. *Bressuire* Junct. Stat. (see Rte. 57).

51 m. **Niort** Junct. Stat. (Buffet), on the Poitiers to Rochelle Rly. (Rte. 66). The country in the immediate neighbourhood of Niort is very picturesque and rich, growing vines which produce a fine vin ordinaire. The adjacent plain is famed for its breed of mules.

ROUTE 62.

NANTES TO ROCHEFORT, BY LA ROCHELLE—RAIL.

Nantes to	Kil.	Miles.
Clisson	24	15
La Roche-sur-Yon Junct.	77	48
Luçon	114	71
Marans	157	96
La Rochelle	181	113
Rochefort	200	132

Nantes is described in Rte. 46.

The rly. crosses the Loire, following the valley of the Sèvre Nantaise by

10 m. *Le Pallet* Stat. (*Inn:* H. de la Croix Verte). The village is celebrated as the birthplace of Abelard; the crumbling brier-grown foundations of a square tower on a hillock above the stream of the Sanguéze are called the remains of the house of his father Béranger. Hither he brought Heloïse, and here she bore him a son.

5 m. **Clisson** Stat. (*Inns:* H. de l'Europe, comfortable; H. Poste, beyond the bridge, fine view; H. de France). Pop. 2830.

This small town is celebrated for its very romantic situation on the Sèvre, over one side of which towers the old *Castle*. The scene has a somewhat Italian character, the houses having been all built under the influence of Cacault (who had resided at Rome as French Envoy) and in the Italian style. The town was destroyed during the Vendéan war, and utterly abandoned for some years, until the brothers Cacault rebuilt it. Remains of the former houses in the shape of mouldering walls are abundant. A handsome *Bridge* of 12 arches, 54 ft. high in the centre, rising on very lofty double piers, now spans the valley, carrying the road across, without descending the very steep slope which leads to the river. The perspective of the interior of the bridge from below, through its piers, forms a vista like that of a cathedral. There are now some large mills in the valley of the Sèvre, which take away from the beauty, but no doubt add to the prosperity, of the town.

The *Castle* (M. H.), the cradle of that noble family from which sprang the famous Olivier de Clisson, the successful antagonist of the English in the wars of the 14th cent., stands on the l. bank of the river. It is based on the rock, or, where that was wanting to furnish a foundation, huge sustaining walls have been raised from the bottom of the valley, on a line with the natural escarpment, to support its towers and bastions. Where not protected by an escarpment, it was surrounded by a fosse. On the l. of the grass-grown courtyard, after entering by the gateway of the Tour des Pélerins, so called from a crusader Clisson, who built it after his return from Palestine, is a vast pile separated by ditches from the rest, entered by several gates in succession, and containing the great hall, the tall donjon, of which one side only remains, and the kitchen, with its wide fireplace. From some of the windows a fine view is obtained over the two valleys of the Maine and Sèvre. All this part of the building is in a state of complete ruin. Before 1793 the castle belonged to the family of Rohan-Soubise, and had fallen into neglect, but its destruction was completed by the Republican army in that year. When the town was set on fire and destroyed by them, a number of its unfortunate inhabitants, chiefly old men, women, and children, sought refuge within the castle walls, and remained in its gloomy vaults and dungeons, whither they had conveyed some of their cattle, for a little time unnoticed. But no sooner was their retreat discovered by the army of Kleber, than they were dragged from their hiding-places and hurled *alive* into a deep well in the second court, now closed up, and marked by a cypress planted near it. For many hours the feeble and half-stifled cries of these unfortunate creatures were heard issuing from its depths, before they perished. The number thus destroyed is variously stated from 30 to 405; the latter, it is to be feared, is nearest the truth. The

story of the well of Clisson is one of the blackest spots in the history of the civil war. In the old part of the castle are shown the feudal prisons, one for men and one for women; gloomy vaults with iron hooks in the arch above, said to have been used for hanging the prisoners. The castle was formerly of great extent, but a part has been removed to make room for the road into La Vendée.

The pretty grounds of *La Garenne*, once highly extolled, perhaps too highly, as "a show-place," are indebted for the beauty which they possess to the stream of the Sèvre, which flows past them, to the fantastic rocks piled one above another near its margin, and to the fine trees dipping their branches in its waters, alternating with rich flat meadow land, which here gives variety to the valley, and to the glimpses of the old castle. Winding walks are carried through the park, decorated at intervals with monuments and statues, a temple of Vesta, a grotto called after Heloïse, and a Roman milestone of the age of the Antonines found on the road to Poitiers. The Garenne owes its embellishment to the brothers Cacault, who deposited their collection of paintings here, now removed to the museum at Nantes, and to M. Lemot, a sculptor, successively its owners, who began the unfinished mansion on the height.

The *Villa Valentin* is part of a convent now modernised; the grounds, which are shown, are pretty. Close to it is the *Ch.*, a very ancient building.

A little beyond this the rly. enters the department of la Vendée, and thenceforth traverses the district which was the theatre of the civil war of 1792-93.

7 m. *Montaigu* Stat., prettily situated on a height above a stream called the Maine, has fallen from the condition of a town to a village (1650 Inhab.) since the war, when two-thirds of its houses were burned, and a large part of its inhabitants massacred. The terrace of the *Château*, now uninhabited, commands a good view.

After crossing the Maine, a wild, open, heathy country succeeds, covered with furze and broom, producing only a little barley and buckwheat, as far as

16 m. *Belleville-Vendée* Stat.

8 m. **La Roche-sur-Yon** Junct. Stat. described together with the branch rly. to *Les Sables d'Olonne* in Rte. 57.

The rly. passes at first through the same dreary, unenclosed heathland to

23 m. *Luçon* Stat. (*Inn:* H. de la Tête-Noire), a dull town of 6100 Inhab., in a situation which is unhealthy on account of its vicinity to the marshes: it is connected with the sea by a canal. Luçon was the episcopal see of Cardinal Richelieu, into which he, though bred up for a soldier, was inducted at the age of 22. Its Gothic *Cathedral*, surmounted by a tall spire of open work, is the principal building.

[15 m. E. of Luçon is *Fontenay le Comte* (*Inns:* H. de France; H. du Chapeau Rouge), a handsome town of 8062 Inhab., on the Vendée, from which the province takes its name, in a narrow plain separating the Bocage from the Marais de la Vendée. In the heart of the old town rises the *Ch. of Nôtre Dame*, a very good Gothic edifice, with a rich portal, surmounted by an elegant spire of open work.

In the *Ch. of St. Nicolas* was buried in 1590 the Cardinal de Bourbon.

The *Hôtel de la Tremouille*, built in 1563, contains a grand hall, with a carved chimney-piece in the Renaissance style.]

The rly. now lies across a district which may be called the Fens of France, a series of marshy flats, traversed by numerous rivers, the chief of which are the Vendée and Sèvre Niortaise; it is intersected also in all directions by canals, and, notwithstanding the drainage effected by them, is unhealthy from malaria. The S. boundary of La Vendée and the stream of the Sèvre Niortaise are crossed shortly before reaching

26 m. *Marans* Stat., a town of 4534 Inhab., on the Sèvre, rendered navigable to Fontenay and Niort, and 9 m. from the sea, by which it exports corn and flour from La Vendée and Niort.

After this the marshes of La Vendée

terminate, and the marly lands of the Pays d'Aunis begin.

A picturesque group of towers and spires, visible from a considerable distance, announces the approach to

15 m. **La Rochelle** Junct. Stat., described in Rte. 66.

The direct line is now open to

18 m. **Rochefort** Junct. Stat. (see Rte. 66).

Diligence twice daily, to *Saujon*, thence short branch *Rly.* to

26 m. *Royan*, at the mouth of the Gironde (see Rte. 74), whence *Steamers* to Bordeaux. The road to Royan traverses an uninteresting flat, only redeemed by drainage from the state of a pestilential marsh called Les Marennes.

ROUTE 63.

ROCHEFORT TO LIMOGES, BY SAINTES, COGNAC AND ANGOULÊME—RAIL.

Rochefort to	Kil.	Miles.
Tonnay-Charente	7	4
Taillebourg	35	22
Saintes Junct.	45	28
Cognac	71	44
Jarnac	85	53
Chateauneuf	107	66
Angoulême	112	76
La Rochefoucauld	133	71
Chabanais	167	105
St. Junien	183	115
Limoges	215	135

Time, 6 to 8 hrs.; *trains*, 3 daily.

[A *Steamer* ascends the Charente to Saintes (35 m.) every morning, returning in the afternoon: the voyage takes 4 hours. The voyage up the Charente is agreeable, though somewhat monotonous, from the windings of the river and the unvaried nature of the green flat pasture-lands on its banks.]

Rochefort is described in Rte. 66.

The *Railway* follows the rt. bank of the Charente, passing

4 m. *Tonnay-Charente* Stat.

Louis XIV. had fixed upon this for the site of his dockyard, a design which was defeated by the enormous demands of its owners for the purchase of the land. The Gothic *Castle*, having a park and gardens attached to it, is the ancient seat of the family of Mortemart. The Charente is crossed by a magnificent suspension-bridge, in the place of the old ferry. A great quantity of brandy is exported from this, almost all the vineyards on the banks of the Charente being cultivated for the manufacture of spirits.

17 m. *Taillebourg* Stat., ruins of the *Castle of Tuillebourg* (M. H.), on an isolated rock, near which St. Louis defeated the English in 1242, to commemorate which a monument was erected in 1851.

6 m. **Saintes** Junct. Stat. (*Inn:* H. des Messageries, clean and good, civil people) — 11,570 Inhab., — formerly capital of the province Saintonge: it betrays in its name the antiquity of its origin. Mediolanum Santonum was chief city of the *Santones*, and of the province of Aquitaine, and has many traces to show its importance under Roman rule.

The principal and best preserved ancient monument is the double *Roman Triumphal Arch* which formerly stood upon the old bridge over the Charente, serving as one of the principal entrances to the town, constructed of a coarse limestone, much injured by the weather. It is a heavy mass of masonry, pierced by two arches, and destitute of all architectural beauty, 38 ft. high. Five inscriptions upon it, half effaced, record that it was raised in the reign of Nero to the memory of Germanicus, of Tiberius his uncle, and of Drusus his father, by Caius Julius Rufus, priest of Roma and Augustus. It was saved from destruction in 1665 by Blondel the architect, who at that time rebuilt the bridge. The old bridge, standing on piers of Roman work, was unnecessarily pulled down, 1844, and the arch which stood upon the second pier from the shore removed, but the separate stones were marked, and carefully rebuilt where they now stand. It is

said to have been erected originally on dry land, and that the river has since altered its bed, and isolated the arch.

There are considerable remains of a *Roman Amphitheatre*, near St. Eutrope, in the faubourg. Though nearly equal in size to that of Nismes, it is very inferior in an architectural point of view, being built of small stones squared, and destitute of ornament: it is now reduced to a few fractured vaults and arches. The oval of the arena measures 70 ft. in its greatest length, and 57 ft. in width. The dens destined for the wild beasts still remain, and there are fragments of an aqueduct, intended, it is supposed, to convert the arena into a naumachia. Many antique fragments, capitals, inscriptions, sarcophagi, &c., are preserved in the garden of the sous-préfecture.

The *Ch. of St. Eutrope*, of which the Romanesque choir and transepts alone remain, is chiefly of 12th cent., with tower and spire of 15th. Remains of the nave may be seen on the W. Most remarkable of all is the *underground ch.*, one of the largest in France, date late in 11th or early in 12th cent. In the E. end is the *tomb* of St. E., partly hidden by the altar, supposed to be as old as the 4th or 5th cent. *Obs.* a large circular font of 11th cent. in the porch, and the beautiful Romanesque work outside the N. wall of the ch.

The detached tower of the *Cathedral* of the 15th cent., conspicuous by its pinnacle, has been fine, but has lost its spire. The interior of the ch. is late and poor, but the transepts retain their ancient domes. There is an early pointed cloister. This ch. occupies the site of one built by Charlemagne in fulfilment of the vow of his father Pepin, after defeating on this spot Gaiffre Duc of Aquitaine. The portal is ancient.

The *Church of St. Marie*, in the Faubourg des Dames, now in a barrack yard, not long since used as stables, is well worth visiting. It is of the 11th and 12th cents. The W. end and the steeple at the crossing, its cupola covered with reversed scales (end of 11th cent.), are both richly ornamented with sculpture. Close to the barrack gate is the pretty little Romanesque *Ch. of St. Palais.*

The public *Library* contains Fénélon's Bible, with his MS. annotations.

Saintes is the country of Bernard Palissy, the pottery artist of the 17th cent., and the scene of some of his most persevering experiments; a *statue* has been erected of him.

[Rly. S. to Coutras and Libourne for Bordeaux, see Rte. 63A].

17 m. *Cognac* Stat. (*Inns:* H. d'Orléans, comfortable; H. de Londres), which gives its name to the best brandy in France, produced from vineyards in its vicinity, and along the banks of the river, between Jarnac and Angoulême. (Rte. 64), in the Dept. of La Charente. The establishment Martell alone contains in its cellars, vaults, and galleries, enough brandy to make one-fourth of the world drunk. The brandy is distilled not in the towns, but by farmers around in small stills. It comes from the still nearly *white*, and ought to owe its *pale* colour to the oak casks in which it is kept. Dark brandies are coloured artificially. The vines cultivated for its manufacture are allowed to grow to greater luxuriance than those used for wine-making, and run along the ground, whence they acquire strength; while the earthy flavour which is inseparable from wine produced from creeping vines is dissipated in the process of distillation.

The *Ch. of St. Leger* is a good specimen of the Romanesque (12th cent.), the choir is later.

Francis I. was born at Cognac, while his mother Louise de Savoie, Duchesse d'Angoulême, was residing in the castle there; but, according to tradition, he first saw the light under an elm-tree, where his mother was unexpectedly confined. A stone now marks the spot.

5 m. *Jarnac* Stat. (*Inn:* H. du Soleil d'Or), a town of 4700 Inhab. on the Charente, with remains of its ancient walls. Near this, about 1 m. N. of Bassac, is a stone pyramid, erected 1818 to mark the spot where the Prince de Condé fell, foully shot, although he had surrendered, in the

Battle of *Jarnac* (12th March 1569), after giving the signal for, and leading with one arm in a sling, and his leg shattered, the third charge of the handful of Protestants engaged against the royal army of double their number under the Duc d'Anjou. Young Henri, Prince of Béarn, afterwards Henri IV., his nephew, was a spectator of the bloody affray, but was not permitted to take part in it.

9 m. *Chateauneuf* Junct. Stat. [Branch rly., S., 12 m. to Barbesieux. (*Inn:* H. Boule d'Or.) A town of 3950 Inhab., with a *Ch.* of the 12th cent., and the ruins of a *Castle* of the 15th cent.].

12 m. *St. Michel d'Entraigues* Stat. There is a remarkable circular *Ch.* (M. H.) here, of the 12th cent.

3 m. **Angoulême** Junct. Stat. (see Rte. 64).

The line continues E. to

18 m. *La Rochefoucauld* Stat. (*Inn*: H. du Commerce), a town of 2775 Inhab., whose castle was the ancient residence of the family of that name, its most noted scion being François, author of the celebrated 'Maximes.' The *Castle* (M. H.) escaped destruction at the Revolution, and still belongs to the family, though no longer inhabited by them. It is a huge pile, flanked by round, cone-roofed towers at the angles, forming 3 sides of a square, and, with the exception of the more ancient donjon, was erected, in 1527, by Antoine Fontan, in the style of the Renaissance. A range of arcades serves as a passage along the inner façade, and a curious and richly ornamented spiral staircase leads to the upper storeys. Below the castle are extensive *Caves*, not now entered, which served as a refuge to the Huguenots in the wars of Religion. There are similar natural caverns all along the valley of the Tardonère, the largest of which, les Grottes de Rancogne, are about 3 m. above La Rochefoucauld. They are traversed by a streamlet, and contain stalactites.

34 m. *St. Junien* Stat. A town of 7500 Inhab., at the confluence of the Glave and the Vienne. The very curious *Ch.* (M. H.) of the 11th cent. contains, at the back of the high altar, a sarcophagus of white marble, adorned with reliefs in the Byzantine style. It contains the relics of the saint, much visited by devotees. In the lower part of the town, near the bridge over the Indre, is a chapel of the 15th cent., of *Notre Dame;* and 1 m. out of it, on the borders of the river, are the ruins of the ch. of *St. Amand.* M. Mérimée observed in its transept a basin hollowed out of the rock, supplied by a spring of running water, into which little pieces of bread had been cast by the peasants, as offerings to St. Amand, who is believed still to work miracles, though his shrine has been destroyed for ages.

[7 m. distant is *Roche-chouart*, a town of 4200 Inhab., on a rock overhanging the Graine. The *Castle* (M. H.) of the 15th cent. is finely situated].

20 m. **Limoges** Junct. Stat., described in Rte. 70.

ROUTE 63A.

ROCHEFORT TO BORDEAUX, BY SAINTES, PONS, AND ST. MARIENS—RAIL.

Rochefort to	Kil.	Miles.
Saintes	45	28
Beillant	54	34
Pons	69	43
Jonzac	88	55
Montendre	111	70
St. Mariens	126	79
Coutras	156	97
Libourne	172	108
Bordeaux	214	134

Time, 6 to 7 hrs.; *trains*, 3 daily.

Rochefort is described in Rte. 66.

For the Rly. as far as

28 m. *Saintes* Junct. Stat., see Rte. 63.

Here the Rly. turns S. to

15 m. *Pons* Junct. Stat.) *Inns:* H. de Nantes, dirty; H. St. Charles), a town of 5000 Inhab. Its castle is distinguished by a high keep-tower of the

11th cent. [Branch Rly. W. to Saujon and *Royan*].

15 m. *Jonzac* Stat. (*Inns:* H. de France, clean and good; H. de l'Ecu), a town of 3300 Inhab. The *Castle*, dating from the 14th cent., is now the Hotel de Ville.

24 m. *St. Mariens* Junct. Stat. [Branch Rly. W. to *Blaye* on the Garonne, see Rte. 74]. The Rly. direct to *Libourne* is in progress, in the mean time the Rly. is followed to

18 m. *Coutras* Junct. Stat. For the remainder of the line through

5 m. *Libourne* Junct. Stat. and

26 m. *Bordeaux* Junct. Stat., see Rte. 64.

ROUTE 64.

TOURS TO BORDEAUX, BY POITIERS AND ANGOULÊME—RAIL.

Tours to	Kil.	Miles.
St. Maure	32	20
Châtellerault	65	40
Poitiers	98	61
Ruffec	162	102
Angoulême	211	132
Coutras Junct.	293	183
Libourne Junct.	309	193
Bordeaux	351	219

5 trains daily, in 7 to 12 hrs.

This railway passes through pretty country and within view of numerous châteaux; and in the first part of its course crosses 4 or 5 rivers, tributaries of the Loire, in succession, on viaducts, and the ridges separating their respective valleys in deep cuttings. Soon after quitting Tours it passes the Cher, on an embankment and the bridge of Granmont, of 6 arches, 590 ft. long; next it is carried over the valley of the Indre on a viaduct of 59 arches, 30 ft. span, 70 ft. high, 2664 ft. long.

7 m. *Monts* Stat. [2 m. on l. is Montbazon, a town of 1090 Inhab., with a *castle-keep* on a rock, a fief of the Rohan family.]

6 m. *Villeperdue* Stat. [To the l. 6 m. (omnibus) lies *Ste. Catherine de Fierbois*. The *Ch.* (M. H.) was founded by Charles Martel, and rebuilt by Charles VII. and Louis XI. Hither Joan of Arc sent from Chinon to fetch the sacred sword, "marked with 5 crosses, lying in a vault," which she afterwards bore in all her battles. She had previously passed through the village, however, on her journey from Lorraine to Chinon, and had doubtless then remarked the weapon; but the vulgar belief attributed its discovery to divine inspiration. Near this is a handsome modern *Gothic château*, built, 1850, by the Marquis de Lussac.

7 m. *Ste. Maure* Stat.; here roads to Chinon and Loches branch off (Rte. 58), the latter passing *Ile Bouchard* (7 m.), whose interesting *Ch.* has a Flamboyant hexagon tower and spire, and an early pointed chancel. Here are ruins of a *Castle* which belonged to the Princes de Craon. The plain around Ste. Maure is thought to be the site of the battle between Charles Martel and the Saracens under Abderahmen in 732.

The river Creuse is crossed at

7 m. *Port-de-Piles* Stat., about ½ m. above its junction with the Vienne. [Higher up, on the rt. bank of the Creuse, is the village of *La Haye*, the birthplace of Descartes. The house in which he was born (1596) is preserved. About 7 m. S. of *La Haye*, also on the Creuse, is the *Château de la Guerche*, built by Charles VII. for Agnes Sorel, where she resided when the king kept his court at Loches, and where he used to visit her on his way to and from the chase in the neighbouring forest. It is a massive pile, rising above the water-side, flanked by towers at the 4 angles. It retains some traces of fresco-painting and the initials of Agnes' name, an A over L (*A-Sur-Elle*). In the chapel is a statue of her.]

3 m. *Les Ormes* Stat., on the Vienne. —The château belongs to the family d'Argenson, and has fine gardens.

The railroad runs parallel with the Vienne to

11 m. **Châtellerault** Stat. (*Inns:* H. de l'Espérance, good; H. Tête Noire, fair dining-place), a smoky town of mean

houses, on the rt. bank of the Vienne, is one of the chief seats of the *Manufacture of Cutlery* in France, which gives employment to about 600 families, out of its 14,278 Inhab., who work for large houses. There is also a Government manufactory of small arms.

The Duchy of Châtellerault was bestowed by Henri II. upon James Hamilton, 2nd Earl of Arran, Regent of Scotland, 1548, to induce him to promote the marriage between his ward, the infant Queen Mary, and the Dauphin Francis, afterwards Francis II. The duchy, although forfeited to the crown by failure of male issue, in spite of this continued to be claimed and the title borne by the Duke of Hamilton, a Douglas, in consequence of his descent in the female line, although the claim of the Duke of Abercorn was perhaps more legitimate. A decree of Napoleon III. has removed all doubt by a new creation in favour of the Duke of Hamilton, who married a relative of His Imperial Majesty; whilst a decree of the French Council of State has declared Lord Abercorn's pretensions unfounded, on the plea of the original one in favour of the Regent Arran having escheated to the Crown in the same century, and the revival of the title being an act of grace of the late Sovereign of France.

The Vienne is navigable for a short distance above Châtellerault. A portion of a gateway flanked by turrets, erected by the Duc de Sully, stands at the extremity of the bridge. Leaving Châtellerault, we pass by

14 m. *Clan* Stat. For the last 3 stages the railroad has continued to ascend the valley of the Clain. That stream traverses a rocky and wooded ravine, of much picturesque beauty; passing by

2 m. *Chasseneuil* Stat., a bridge and viaduct are crossed before arriving at

5 m. **Poitiers** Junct. Stat. (Buffet), nearly a mile from the town by the road, but much less by a pathway. Omnibus from rly. (*Inns:* H. du Palais, near stat., well spoken of, good cuisine; H. de France, in upper town, near Palais de Justice, rebuilt, reasonable and good; H. Trois Piliers.)

This capital of ancient Poitou, an early possession of the kings of England, who were its dukes down to the time of Charles V. (1371), stands on a rounded eminence of considerable height, the summit of which is occupied by the Préfecture and Palais de Justice. From this its streets sweep down in steep slopes, to the small river Clain, which encompasses nearly ¾ of its circuit, while the smaller river Boivre encircles another part, so that they formed, in ancient times, a natural fosse round its ramparts, now almost entirely swept away by modern improvements. The number of Inhab. is 31,034: it has neither commerce nor manufacture of any great importance, as might indeed be surmised from its dull and empty streets, excepting the market-place, at times a scene of much bustle and densely crowded.

The *Ecole de Droit*, numbers between 200 and 300 students, but of greater celebrity in former times than at present. Lord Bacon in his youth is said to have studied here. The town contains several *nunneries*, chiefly serving as establishments for the education of young females.

The objects of interest of Poitiers are chiefly of an antiquarian nature. It possesses a large number of churches, and, as some of them date from a very early period, and others were commenced later, and continued down to comparatively modern times, they form a very instructive series, by which the progress and change of style in ecclesiastical building may be followed.

The principal sights may be visited in a very few hours in the following order, entering by the Porte de Paris:—

Ch. of Notre Dame, Palais de Justice, the Cathedral and Prefecture, Ch. of St. Radegonde, Temple of St. Jean, College and Library, Site of Roman Amphitheatre, Promenade de Blossac, Chs. of St. Hilaire, St. Porchaire, and Montierneuf, Ruins of Château; and, if time will permit, drive round the Ramparts to the *Botanic Garden* and les Cours.

**Notre Dame de Poitiers*, in the market-place, presents a remarkable example of the florid Romanesque style in its venerable W. façade, which is covered with sculpture from top to bottom, happily not yet destroyed. It rests on 3 arches; the central one, forming the entrance, being circular, the two side ones pointed, but all decorated with mouldings and capitals of the same character. The rest of the façade, on each side of a tall round-headed window, originally circular, is occupied by arcades filled with statues and with bas-reliefs beneath; above all, upon the summit of the gable, is the pointed almond-shaped niche (*vesica piscis*) containing a statue and other sculpture, much weather worn. The façade is flanked by 2 round turrets. The probable date of this façade is the middle of the 12th cent. The interior is in a more severe style, but sadly defaced by ugly modern painting. The nave has a barrel vault, crossed by plain circular arches, and the E. end terminates with a circular apse, having aisle and chapels round it. At the crossing is a square tower, having a circular stage above, terminating in a low spire. The chapel of St. Anne in the S. aisle, an addition in the florid style of the 15th



1. Les Arênes { Roman Amphitheatre.
2. Evêché.
3. Hôtel de la Préfecture.
4. „ de Ville.
5. Palais de Justice.
6. Temple St. Jean.
7. Post.
8. Notre Dame.
9. Montierneuf.
10. St. Hilaire.
11. Cathedral.
12. St. Porchaire.
13. St. Radegonde.

cent., contains in a rich recess a group of the Entombment, of the 16th cent.

The Salle des Pas Perdus, in the *Palais de Justice* (close to Notre Dame), which originally formed part of the palace of the Comtes de Poitou, is a vast hall, with an open wooden roof (early 15th cent.); its walls are decorated with arcades, circular on one side and pointed on the other, yet both perhaps nearly of the same date, the 12th cent. "At the end of the Hall is a splendid triplet of *fireplaces*, with an open stair in each angle, leading to a tribune over the fireplace. Above this is a series of windows with fine tracery masking the chimneys and terminating above with statues under canopies. This magnificent design, which fills the end of the hall, was the work of John Duke of Berry and Count of Poitou, in the commencement of the 15th cent."—*D. T.* The Castle of the Counts, adjoining (restored)—built in the 13th cent., repaired in the 14th, and now used as a Court of Justice—has much old sculpture on the outside. It was here that Charles VII. was proclaimed king in 1422, and that Joan of Arc was examined by a council of matrons and lawyers in 1429. *See* the *Museum of Antiquities and Nat. Hist.* in the building. Look at the old house called *La Prévôté* in the street of the same name.

From the Place d'Armes a crooked street leads to the **Cathedral of St. Pierre* (M.H.), founded by Henry II. of England 1161, but little at the E. end seems to have been completed by him. The building throughout is of the end of the 12th and beginning of 13th cent., except the W. façade, begun in the middle of the 13th, and carried on in the 14th and 15th cents., and is rather poor in design. The interior has a great appearance of spaciousness: a nave flanked by 2 rows of columns, 2 aisles, like a great hall. The E. end terminates square, with shallow circ. recesses in the thickness of the wall. There is a fine circ. arcade all round the lower part of the ch. The walls and aisles converge and the vault drops towards the E. The transepts short, mere chapels. The vaulting is very domical. The piers—composed of circular and angular members, surmounted by sharply-cut capitals—are elegant. There are several painted windows, and a fine rose one at the W. end, hid by the organ. Very solid buttresses support the walls and roof.

A little way behind the E. end of the cathedral stands the *Abbey Ch. of St. Radegonde*; the lower part of whose elegant Romanesque tower, though masked by a florid porch, is probably of the 11th cent., as well as the white marble *bénitier*, shaped like a horse-trough, within it. Above it is a curious niche, containing an antique bas-relief of our Saviour. The nave, which has no aisles, is of the 12th cent., has an arcade round the walls, and domical vaults like the cath. The Romanesque choir is late in 11th cent., and is raised upon a very old *crypt*, partly excavated in the rock, perhaps older than any part of the upper structure. In this is deposited the black marble Coffin of St. Radegonde, resorted to, in the month of August, by thousands of devotees, chiefly of the lower orders, who throng the low vault to kiss the worn marble Sarcophagus (on which some curious ornaments of an early age may be discerned), and to bring their sick children to be cured, studding the walls with dirty tapers. The saint's empty coffin, it appears, still retains the virtue of healing possessed by her body before it was burnt by the Huguenots in 1562. In the S. wall of the nave is a small chapel, fenced with iron bars, called "*Le Pas de Dieu*," because it contains the stone impressed by the footmark of our Saviour, who here appeared to St. Radegonde, according to the legend! It is covered over by an iron case to protect it. Part of the internal decorations of this ch. are, like the porch, of the 15th cent., and some of the sculpture is by no means appropriate to a sacred edifice.

To the S. of the Cathedral is the building called the **Temple de St. Jean*, originally a baptistery, then a church, next a *Musée*, restored 1860. It is the oldest edifice in Poitiers,

and also one of the most ancient Christian monuments in France, on which account, as well as from the style of its architecture, it deserves particular attention from those who take an interest in antiquities. It measures about 40 ft. by 25, its greatest length being from E. to W., and its walls on these sides terminating in obtuse gables. The masonry is very neat; on the W. end are traces of Roman *opus reticulatum*, and on 3 of the walls, inside as well as out, a sort of arcade is introduced, consisting of a circular arch, flanked and surmounted by small triangles resembling pediments. This debased style of building, not unlike our Saxon, arising from want of skill in the architects, and of funds in the founders, followed the Roman, at the fall of the Empire, and preceded the Romanesque. It is probable, therefore, that the Temple de St. Jean dates from the 6th or 7th cent. It appears to have been a *Baptistery*, judging from the well in the centre of its floor, about 8 ft. deep, having a pipe running obliquely into it. The style of construction is decidedly post-Roman. To convert it into a ch., a semicircular apse was thrown out from the E. wall, and a sort of porch raised before the W., probably not later than the 10th cent.; and the frescoes, still visible on the inner walls, are of the 12th. The bull's-eye windows by which it is lighted were originally round-headed ones, the lower part of which has been bricked up. This edifice was once condemned by the municipal authorities to be pulled down, because it stood in the way of the road to Limoges. Luckily there were found in Poitiers some admirers of ancient art to save it from destruction.

The following churches will deserve the notice of the antiquary and architect, in addition to those already mentioned. **St. Hilaire*, finished 1049, very curious and interesting, and in course of restoration. A large part of the nave was destroyed in the Revolution. It originally had double aisles, and 5 bays covered with octagon cupolas. At the crossing is a dome; vaults, throughout, plain barrel. The apsidal choir rests on 8 lofty columnar piers. The W. half of the ch. is lower than the E. by 13 steps, and under the raised portion, in an arch opening to the W., is the carved marble lid of an ancient sarcophagus (8th cent.). The bénitier of white marble is said to be of the time of Dagobert (7th cent.). The outside of the E. end is good Romanesque work. *St. Jean de Montierneuf* (M.H.) is also Romanesque, but altered and spoiled since the Revolution. It has a fine nave, and contains the restored tomb of the founder, William Guy Geoffrey (d. 1086) Duke of Aquitaine and Count of Poitiers. *St. Porchaire* has a good Romanesque tower; the lower stage has a barrel-vault. Date (?) 1068.

In the *Public Library* are some good illuminated MSS.

The Romans have left traces of their settlement here, on the site of Gaulic *Limonum*, a city of the *Pictavi*, in the remains of an *Amphitheatre*, of which scanty fragments only exist at the back of the Rue d'Evreux. Great part of the vaulted corridor which ran round the building on the ground-floor has been removed to give space for a market, which now occupies the oval interior of the Circus. The hardness and regularity of the masonry, in the portions of the wall exposed to view, are such as characterise all Roman constructions.

M. Moitre, a chair-maker, No. 7, Rue St. Étienne, has a curious collection of Limoges enamels, ivory-carvings, &c.

Poitiers is surrounded by narrow valleys or ravines on all sides except on the S.W., where a neck of land connects it with the high ridge whose extremity it occupies. In ancient times it was defended on this side by strong walls and a deep ditch dug across the isthmus. The space within these walls is now converted into the *Promenade de Blossac*, so called from an intendant of the province in the last cent. by whom it was made; a very agreeable walk, the terraces, resting on the foundations of the old

walls, commanding a pleasing view into the valley of the Clain below.

From the heights on the rt. bank of the Clain there is a good view of this picturesque town, but no path runs along them. "The writer took an agreeable but scrambling walk, issuing out of Poitiers by the Paris gate, crossing the bridge over the Clain, then ascending through vineyards behind the Faubourg, and keeping along the edge of the cliff as far as the road to Limoges, where he recrossed the Clain by another bridge, at the back of St. Radegonde."

About 1½ m. out of the town, a little to the l. of the road to Limoges, on a height, is a *Dolmen*, or Druidic monument, known as *La Pierre Levée*. It is a block of calcareous sandstone, about 13 ft. long and 3 thick, resting at one end upon upright stones. It is well preserved. Rabelais attributes its erection to Pantagruel, "pour le divertissement des escholiers de l'Université," who resorted hither to carouse.

At about an equal distance in another direction, a little to the l. of the road to Angoulême, at *L'Ermitage*, the property of Count Traversay, are remains of a *Roman Aqueduct*, which supplied water to the town and circus. 4 or 5 of its arches are tolerably perfect.

Poitiers is historically celebrated. The invading tide of the Saracenic hordes penetrated in the 8th cent. thus far into W. Europe, at a moment when the fate of Christianity seemed trembling in the scale. At that epoch, having already conquered Spain, they poured through the defiles of the Pyrenees, overspread Aquitaine, advanced to the walls of Poitiers under their famed chief Abdelrahmen, and burned the ch. of St. Hilaire to the ground. They were even threatening to pass the Loire, when they were met, somewhere between Poitiers and Tours, by Charles Martel, in 732. This contest between the E. and the W., between the Gospel and the Koran, ended in the defeat of the Saracens, 300,000 of whom, it is said, but on the doubtful authority of a single chronicler, were left dead on the field; and the remnant retired, never more to trouble Christendom in the W. The site of the battle-field has never been exactly ascertained, although supposed to have been at St. Maure near Tours, and no discovery of bones has been made, which would surely mark the scene of so enormous a slaughter. At an earlier period (507) the plains of Poitiers had witnessed the defeat of Alaric King of the Visigoths, by Clovis.

Poitiers is celebrated in English history for the signal victory gained under its walls, in 1356, by the army of the Black Prince, consisting of English and Gascons, who early in that year had invaded the S. of France, and spread desolation through Languedoc, Limousin, and Auvergne, as far as the gates of Bourges. The prince's whole force did not exceed 12,000 or 14,000 men, and the expedition had no other design than that of a foray to "harry" the fair fields of France. On his way back to Bordeaux, however, unexpectedly, on 9th September, he encountered the army of John King of France, amounting to 60,000 men, of whose vicinity, and even of their march to meet him, he had been entirely ignorant. "God help us!" said the prince, "we must now consider how we can best fight them." The Pope's Legate, Cardinal Talleyrand, assuming the office of peacemaker, in vain endeavoured to prevent the impending strife; even Edward himself offered to acquiesce in any reasonable terms, consistent with his honour, to be permitted to go free. He offered to give up all the towns and castles he had taken, together with the prisoners, and not to bear arms against the French king for the space of 7 years. The French, however, confident in numbers, would listen to no conditions but the surrender of the Black Prince and 100 of his principal knights. The result is well known. The English owed the success of the day, under Providence, to their well-chosen position, to the deadly and skilfully aimed arrows of their yeomen, which availed more than the lances of their knights,

and to the stout hearts of their leaders, the Black Prince and Lord Chandos, and of all the English under them. On that day France beheld the flower of her chivalry laid low, while her king, John, was led into captivity. The noble dead were buried by the townsfolk in the churches of the Cordeliers and Jacobins within the town. The field of battle is fixed by Froissart in the plain of Maupertuis, near the village Beaumont. There is difficulty in identifying it at present; but it was probably near Cardemère on the road to Limoges.

Railway to Niort, Rochefort, and Rochelle (Rte. 66), to Gueret by Montmorillon (Rte. 65), to Bressuire (in Rte. 57), and to Saumur (in Rte. 58).

The country traversed by the railway to Angoulême possesses little interest. On quitting Poitiers, it leaves l. the old town walls under the church of St. Hilaire, and through a short tunnel returns into the valley of the Clain, which it crosses several times. It was on the plain over the Clain, near the *Abbaye de Nouvaille*, that was fought the battle generally known as that of Poitiers.

3 m. *St. Benoit* Junct. Stat. [Rly. to Niort and La Rochelle, Rte. 66.]

2 m. *Ligugé* Stat. The monastery here was founded by St. Martin. The *Ch.* (M. H.) is of the 15th cent.

8 m. *Vivonne* Stat., passing another tunnel.

The celebrated Marquise de Rambouillet was born here. Beyond Vivonne, near the village of Voulon, is the battle-field where Clovis defeated Alaric in A.D. 507.

20 m. *Civray* Stat. This old town of 2300 Inhab. lies 2 m. l. on the rt. bank of the Charente. The Romanesque *Ch. of St. Nicholas* (M. H.) has a façade curiously ornamented with sculptures, including signs of the zodiac, somewhat like Notre Dame at Poitiers, dating probably from the early part of the 12th cent.

[At Charroux, 8 m. farther E., are remains of an *Abbey*, now reduced to a tower about 80 ft. high, rising from 2 circular arcades, one above the other, supported by piers formed of bundles of shafts. This was originally the central tower of a very curious church, consisting of a circular choir, preceded by a rectangular nave: but all the rest is destroyed. The abbey was founded by Charlemagne, but these ruins belong to edifices not older than the 12th cent.

16 m. further to the S.E., on the same road, is *Confolens* (*Inn:* Lepelletier), a town of 3000 Inhab., in a picturesque valley at the confluence of the Goire and the Vienne, with a remarkable *dolmen* in the neighbourhood. The *Church of St. Barthélemy* (M. H.) dates from the 11th cent.

22 m. N. of Civray, but nearer Vivonne, is *Gençay* (H. du Lion d'Or). Here is a very fine and picturesque *Castle* of the 12th or 13th cent., the walls in good preservation. And near it is the *Ch. of St. Maurice*, a Romanesque structure, with central tower, apsidal chapels, and the other usual characters of a fine ch. of the 12th century.]

The Railway enters the valley of the Charente beyond Civray Stat., which it follows to

9 m. *Ruffec* Stat. (Buffet). (*Inns:* H. des Ambassadeurs; the pâtés de perdrix aux truffes unrivalled; H. Poste, very good.) The *Ch.* is old and curious; the porch of the 11th cent. Ruins of the castle which belonged to the Counts of Broglie in the 17th cent. Pop. 3175.

Beyond *Luxé* Stat. the Charente is crossed, and the Castles of la Terne and la Titerne are passed.

17 m. *St. Amant de Boixe* Stat. About 1 m. distant is a large and interesting *Ch.* (M.H.), consecrated 1170, but in a ruinous condition. It is singular for its dome, covered with ribs, and has a central tower and spire, and curious carving at the W. end.

The cultivation of the vine now becomes general. The wines produced about Angoulême and along the borders of the Charente are of inferior quality, chiefly used for being converted into brandy. Between Pontouvre and Bourgets we cross the Touvre.

[A few miles up this stream is the Government cannon-foundry of *Ruelle;* charcoal is employed as the fuel in the smelting furnaces, and is abundantly supplied by the neighbouring forests.

13 m. in the same direction is *La Rochefoucauld,* on the Rly. from Angoulême to Limoges (see below).

8 m. **Angoulême** Junct. Stat. (Buffet) (*Inns:* H. La Poste, clean and good, 10 min. from station; H. de France; H. du Palais, in the upper town, good).

This ancient capital of the Angoumois, now of the Dépt. de la Charente, occupies a situation, not unlike that of Poitiers, on the top of a hill, terraced round with remains of the ancient ramparts above, while below it is nearly encircled by the Charente. The town is distinguished by far more activity, industry, and trade, than Poitiers, and possesses, with its suburbs, a population of 26,000. Though planted on the top of an isolated hill, more than 200 ft. above the river, it is abundantly supplied with fountains of water, pumped up by machinery. Its houses, being of a white stone, easily cut, give to it a cheerful appearance: it has many new streets and a few old buildings. Its most pleasing features, however, are the series of *Terrace-walks* running round it, on the sites of the old ramparts, and commanding a charming view of the deep valley below, of the winding Charente fringed with verdure, of the suburbs, and the *paper-mills* on the river-banks, which furnish the staple article of manufacture here. By far the finest portion of these terraces is the *Promenade Beaulieu;* from which a series of walks and shrubberies extend down the slopes to the bottom of the valley. In the midst of them stands a column erected to the Duchesse d'Angoulême in 1815.

In the irregular *Place,* in the centre of the town, stood the old *Castle,* now pulled down with the exception of the "grosse tour" (12th cent.), and another, which have been incorporated in the handsome Hôtel de Ville. It was the residence of the ancient Counts of Angoulême; Marguerite de Valois, Queen of Navarre, was born in it—the most accomplished princess of her day, "La Marguerite des Marguerites," as her brother François I. called her; and its walls gave shelter to Marie de Medicis. She retired hither, after her husband's assassination, under the protection of the Duc d'Epernon, governor of the Angoumois, who has been suspected of being the accomplice of Ravaillac; while the queen-mother herself was not entirely free from suspicion—"The death of Henry did not sufficiently surprise her."

The **Cathedral* of St. Pierre (M. H.), a very fine and complete example of a Romanesque cath., was rebuilt from its foundations in 1120. It originally consisted of a nave only, with 4 domes, and the present apse and 4 semicircular chapels to the E. Later in the 12th cent., the transepts were built, with towers over them, of which that on the N. has been rebuilt; of the S. tower only the lower part remains now a vestry. The W. façade was built end of 12th cent., and the interior enriched with engaged columns, &c., at the same time. The N. tower, of 6 rows of semicircular arcades, as well as the W. front, is in the style of the churches of N. Italy; almost the whole space being divided by circular arcades, resting on elegant columns, inclosing statues much mutilated. Below the centre of the pediment forming the upper tier of arches is a statue of the Saviour surrounded by symbols of the Evangelists. The interior, which has a great deal of beauty, of a kind different from a Gothic cathedral, is in the form of a Latin cross; the *nave* has no side aisles; its roof is formed of 3 vaulted cupolas, a style of building not met with N. of the Loire. Over the cross rises an octagonal tower, opening to the ch. below with a lanthorn; and a dome over it, to be noticed for its great beauty. The choir ends in an apse. This ch. suffered in the wars of the Huguenots in 1562-68, and again at the Revolution. The repairs of 1865-67 have deprived it of much of its antique character; the interior especially

has had an entirely new face given it, according to the French practice.

The *Chapel of the Hospital* (Hôtel Dieu) is a work of the 13th cent.

St. André is a late ch., with Romanesque entrance, having a barrel-vault.

St. Ausonne and *St. Martial*, 2 good modern churches. St. M., in Romanesque style, is admirably designed by M. Abadie.

Among modern buildings, the *Palais de Justice* deserves notice. In the attic has been placed the public *Library*, containing 14,000 vols., and a small collection of Natural History.

Outside the town, to the N., in the escarped rock below the ramparts, is the *Grotte de St. Cybard*, a hermit, whose real name was Eparchus, who occupied it as his cell, and died here in the 6th cent.

Ausonius mentions this town under the name *Iculisma*, fancifully derived from "In collis summâ," and gradually softened down, as some conjecture, into the modern Angoulême.

Angoulême and the surrounding province were governed, from the 8th down to the beginning of the 14th century, when they were united to France, by a line of independent counts, 19 in number; first of the family of Taillefer, and, after 1218, of the house of Lusignan. It also belonged to the English, and was the residence of the Black Prince after the battle of Poitiers. One of the town gates, not pulled down until 1808, was named *La Porte de Chandos*, from the English knight who built it, while Constable of Aquitaine for Edward III. A house in the Rue de Genève is pointed out as that inhabited by Calvin, who sought refuge here 1533, and taught Greek to maintain himself. The *Place du Murier* receives its name from a mulberry-tree which stood in the midst of it while it was the garden of a Dominican convent. During the outrages committed by the Calvinist soldiery 1562, the monk Michel Grillet was hung to its boughs, in the presence of Admiral de Coligny, whose end he is said to have foretold in his dying words, "You shall be thrown out of the window, like Jezebel, and shall be ignominiously dragged through the streets."

The *Naval School*, established here in 1816, was suppressed 1830, and transferred to Brest, and the building, in the Faubourg l'Houmeau, converted into the Rly. Stat.

The manufactures of Angoulême consist of paper, made in numerous mills in the neighbouring valleys, and brandy. It is celebrated among gourmands for its *pâtés* de perdrix aux truffes.

The Charente is navigable to the sea at Rochelle from the quay below the town. A *Steamer* runs to Saintes (Rte. 62) 3 times a week.

Railway W. to Saintes and Rochefort, following the course of la Charente; E. to Limoges (see Rte. 63).

The railway on leaving the Stat. traverses a tunnel through the hill on which stands Angoulême.

Many cuttings and embankments occur before we reach

5 m. *La Couronne* Stat., near to which, on rt., are the ruins of the *Abbaye de la Couronne*, in the midst of a valley abounding in paper-mills. After escaping destruction at the Revolution, it was demolished for the sake of the materials: the part remaining includes the W. front with a fine doorway, and part of a rose-window over it. The railway leaves the old post-road on the rt., and crosses on a lofty viaduct of 12 arches the valley of the Couteaubières before reaching

4 m. *Mouthiers* Stat. The Castle of Laroche Landry, on the top of a rock, has been rebuilt by a banker of Angoulême. The viaduct of Couteaubières, 990 ft. long, of 12 arches, is on a curve. Beyond

5 m. *Charmant* Stat. is the tunnel of Livernan, the longest on the line, measuring 1608 yards.

7 m. *Montmoreau* Stat. Here is a fine Romanesque *Ch.* (M. H.) of the 12th cent., restored, and fragments of a Castle of the 16th cent.

11 m. *Chalais* Stat. This town with its château (Renaissance) belonging to

the Talleyrand family, one of whose members derives the title of Prince from it.

19 m. *Coutras* Junct. Stat. (Buffet). Memorable for the battle between the Protestants and the Roman Catholics, fought on the plain near the confluence of the Dronne and Isle, 1587, when Henri IV., then King of Navarre, gained a victory over the forces of the League under the Duc de Joyeuse. Small *Ch.*, Romanesque at E. end, with a low tower at the junction of nave and apse, having a dome under it. The rest of the ch. is late, with a pretty new tower and spire at W. end. [Rly. E. to *Perigueux* (Rte. 71), and N.W. to *Rochefort* (Rte. 63A).]

5 m. **Libourne** Junct. Stat. (Buffet) (*Inns:* H. des Princes, good; H. de l'Europe; H. de France), a town of 14,960 Inhab., situated on the rt. bank of the Dordogne, here a tidal river, capable of receiving vessels of 300 tons burthen, and crossed by a bridge of brick, like that of Bordeaux, at the confluence of the Isle, which is traversed by an iron suspension one. It is neat and regularly built, and was chief of the "Bastides" or free towns founded by Edward I., at the highest point on the Dordogne navigable for English vessels engaged in the wine trade. At one time it seemed likely to rival Bordeaux. The *Hotel de Ville* is picturesque. S. of the town is *Condat*—"Condatis portus"—mentioned by Ausonius, an ancient residence of the English kings.

[Branch rly. E., up the valley of the Dordogne, passing,

5 m., *St. Emilion* (*Inn:* H. Dussaut, clean), a venerable town of 3019 Inhab., celebrated for its wines, and remarkable for the antiquity of its buildings. It was one of the *Bastides*, or Free Towns, founded by our Edward I., and retains to this day its crenellated ramparts, watch-towers, and 6 gates still perfect; and many of its houses are not less than 3 centuries old. It is seated in a sort of ravine or quarry, and many of the dwellings are caves hewn in the rocks. It has a ruined *Castle, le Château du Roi*, built by Louis VIII., surmounted by a square keep-tower, in a style resembling the Norman. A very singular *rock-hewn Church* of great age. It consists of a nave, whose barrel-vault is carved with figures of angels, animals, &c., while its aisles and piers are formed of square masses of the sandstone left standing. Over it, on the top of the rock, an early Gothic steeple has been erected, and a rich portal of the 14th cent. is applied to the face of the rock. A round Gothic ch., called the *Rotonde*; the *Parish* or Collegiate *Church*, a very fine building, limited to 3 bays of a Transition nave, attached to an early Gothic choir, and W. portal, of the 12th cent. On the S. side is a *Cloister*, and at the W. end rises a graceful tower, octagonal above, square below, commanding from its top a fine view; the ruins of several other churches and convents; and a handsome building, the *Palais du Cardinal* de Cantarac. The Girondins Guadet, Pétion, and Barbaroux sought refuge for a time in the cave dwellings here, but were captured and slain, 1794.

6 m. *Castillon*, under whose walls was fought, in 1453, the battle in which valiant Lord Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury,

> "The Frenchman's only scourge,
> Their kingdom's terror, and black Nemesis,"

hemmed in by a French force greatly superior to his own, was slain, at the age of nearly 80 years, gallantly fighting, along with his son, the Lord Lisle, whom his father in vain counselled to depart out of the field, seeing that all was lost,—a real incident, which has furnished Shakespeare with a fine scene. The result of Talbot's defeat and death was the capture of Bordeaux from the English, and their final expulsion from Guienne. Near La Mothe-Montraval, on the rt. bank of the Dordogne, a tumulus is pointed out under the name of Talbot's tomb; but it is known that his body was removed by his friends to England.

3 m. from Castillon, and less from

La Mothe, on the l. of the road, but accessible only by a rough cross one, is the village and *Château of St. Michel Montaigne* (M. H.), the birthplace of Montaigne, where the philosopher and great essayist died. It is a considerable mediæval building, and remains nearly as described by him in his Essai des Trois Commerces. The room which was his library is preserved in the gate tower, over the entrance, and its roof is inscribed with Greek and Latin sentences; among them—"Homo sum: humani à me nihil alienum puto." There is a pleasing view from the terrace. The ch. is near the house. The château belongs to M. Magne, Minister of Finance under Napoleon III.

From Castillon the rly. passes through St. Antoine Port Ste. Foy, and follows the valley of the Vezère, to

28 m. *Bergerac.* (*Inn:* H. des Princes, good).]

The rly. quits Libourne by a bridge of 9 arches over the Dordogne, placed a little above that which carries the post-road to Bordeaux.

3 m. *Arveyres* Stat.

The viaduct of Arveyres over the marshes consists of 100 small arches, and is 1290 yards long. The rly., following the Dordogne, makes a wide sweep before it arrives at

7 m. *St. Sulpice* Stat., in a country of vineyards. A few miles from this, down the river, is the tongue of land which separates the Dordogne from the Garonne, across which our way lies—a fertile district, chiefly laid out in vineyards and cornfields, and scattered over with country seats. It is locally known as the district of "Entre Deux Mers."

5 m. *La Grave d'Ambarès* Stat. Diligences to Cubsac. La Grave is centre of a district celebrated for its wines. Near this are 4 tunnels.

[5 m. St. André de *Cubsac*, on the rt. bank of the Dordogne, here a wide estuary, formerly crossed in ferry-boats. For this disagreeable ferry an iron-wire *Suspension-bridge*, the longest in France, and indeed in Europe, has been substituted. It was begun 1835, and finished 1839, at a cost of 3,000,000 fr., by M. Fortuné de Vergèz, an eminent civil engineer. It is divided into 5 spans supported on 6 pair of piers, consisting of hollow columnar shafts or towers in cast iron. The roadway of the bridge is raised 95 ft. above the water, so as to allow vessels of considerable tonnage to pass under it; and the approaches, from either bank, are by a series of 29 lofty arches, on either bank, which have a striking effect. The bridge itself has much the appearance of the Brighton chain-pier, and is of slight construction, not being warranted to stand more than forty years. The length of the central span is 1788 ft., and the 29 arches on either side, with the embankments and approaches, making a total length of 5070 ft., or very nearly a mile: the roadway is 25½ ft. wide.

The Dordogne joins the Garonne 10 m. below this bridge, and their united waters form the estuary called the Gironde, after which the department is named.]

The approach to Bordeaux is very striking; the railroad is carried along the rt. bank of the Garonne, over 3 viaducts and through 3 tunnels, to

5 m. *Lormont* Stat., until the city appears lining its opposite bank. As Bordeaux is approached the rly. makes a long sweep to the l., from the direct line, and the *Gare de la Bastide*, and crossing the Garonne by a fine bridge, enters the city by the suburb of St. Jean, where the

7½ m. BORDEAUX Junct. Stat. (Buffet) is situated, and from which all the lines towards the south diverge. (See Rte. 73.)

ROUTE 65.

POITIERS TO ST. SULPICE LAURIÈRE BY MONTMORILLON (ST. SAVIN)—RAIL.

	Kil.	Miles.
Poitiers to		
Montmorillon . . .	54	33
Le Dorat	83	52
St. Sulpice Laurière .	126	79

4 trains daily, in 4 hrs.

This railway is an important link in the cross line of communication, connecting La Rochelle on the Atlantic with Geneva and Italy, *viâ* Guéret.

[A little to the N. of this line, 15 m. from Poitiers, on the road to Argenton by Le Blanc (*Diligence* daily), is *Chauvigny* (*Inn:* H. du Lion d'Or), a town of 2049 Inhab., occupying a commanding height on the rt. bank of the Vienne. It was, in feudal times, a strong fortress, and still possesses the ruins of 3 distinct *Castles* built on the same plan, a square flanked by turrets. The *Donjon*, on the top of the hill, of the 11th cent., shows on one side a breach in its wall, made during the wars of Religion in the 16th cent., and now filled up with bricks arranged herringbone fashion. One of the castles, the most modern, probably of the 13th or 14th cent., with pointed windows, serves as a prison. There are many old houses in the upper town dating from the 15th and 16th cents. The *Ch. of Notre Dame* (M. H.), also in the upper town, is an interesting Romanesque building, early in the 12th cent., decorated with ornaments of Byzantine art without and also within; the capitals of its columns being carved with mermaids, monsters, &c., as well as with Scriptural subjects. The *Ch. of St. Pierre* (M. H.), in the lower town, is also of the 12th cent., with a circular apse of the middle of the 13th.

11 m. further is

St. Savin (*Inn:* H. Thévenet), a town of 1600 Inhab. on the Gartempe. The *Ch.* (M. H.), 11th cent., is decorated in the porch (10th cent.), nave, and crypt, under the choir, with paintings, representing Scriptural subjects, the figures as large as life, and tolerably well preserved. Those in the crypt relate to the legend of St. Savin and St. Cyprien. They show strong Byzantine influence, but appear to be the work of native painters of the end of the 11th, or beginning of the 12th cent.—N.B. The horsemen are represented riding without stirrups. The ch. itself is entered by steps leading down into it, and the W. end seems to have been separated from the rest, so as to form a narthex. The choir and shallow transepts end in apses.]

25 m. *Lussac les Châteaux* Stat. (*Inn:* H. Trois Pigeons). "A small Romanesque church, and the ruins of 2 *castles*, and of a bridge which connected them, the towers of which remain in the water, but the arches, probably of wood, have been destroyed. The scenery is very picturesque; there is a cavern in the rock."—*J. H. P.* It was here that the brave Sir John Chandos, seneschal of Poitou, received his death-wound in a chance *mêlée* with the French, 1370.

8 m. **Montmorillon** Stat. (*Inns:* H. Grand Monarque, H. de France). "In the courtyard of what was the baronial castle, and is now a college, there is an ancient and very curious chapel. Originally it must have been the domestic chapel of the lords of the adjacent castle. It consists of a subterranean crypt, probably the family sepulchral vault, and an octagonal chapel above with a conical roof. Part of this building is in the Norman style, and part in the pointed. That part which is in the round style may belong to the 11th cent. The pointed part cannot be older than the 13th. But the most remarkable feature in this building, and that to which it owes its celebrity, is a group of rudely sculptured figures which occupy a recess above the doorway. Various explanations of this singular group have been offered by the learned, but none of them are satisfactory, and the problem is more diffi-

cult to solve, as some of the figures are taken from ordinary life, and some are allegorical."—*H. G. K.* The most singular and inexplicable, perhaps, are two female figures, the one corpulent, having toads or scarabs hanging from her breasts; the other meagre, entwined by serpents, and suckling them. This *Church* has been restored by the Government. Under an arch on the rt. is the tomb of Etienne de la Hire.

[Diligence daily to N.E. 20 m. *Le Blanc*, an industrious town of 5996 Inhab., on the Creuse, with a *Ch.* of the 12th and 13th cents. 5 m. farther up the picturesque valley of the Creuse is the *Abbey* of *Fontgombault*, built in 1131, and in the 16th cent. possessing large revenues, and of great repute. It is now occupied by a penitentiary colony, under the direction of the Trappists, by whom the *Abbatial Ch.* (M. H.), of the 12th cent., has been partially restored.]

18 m. *Le Dorat* Stat. (*Inn:* H. de France). Pop. 2772. Fine view from the hill on which it is built. *Ch.* (M. H.) of 11th and 12th cent.

Just before reaching

17 m. *Bessines* Stat. the line joins that from Vierzon to

9 m. *St. Sulpice Laurière* Junct. Stat. (See Rte. 70.)

ROUTE 66.

POITIERS TO ROCHELLE AND ROCHEFORT—RAIL.

Poitiers.	Kil.	Miles.
Lusignan	26	16
Niort	78	48
Aigrefeuille	127	77
La Rochelle.	145	90
Rochefort	142	88

4 trains daily, in 3½ to 5 hrs.

This line branches off from that between Poitiers and Angoulême at

3 m. *St. Benoît* Stat. (Rte. 64.)

13 m. *Lusignan* Stat., on the Vonne (*Inns:* H. Ste. Catherine; Lion d'Or), gave its name to the noble family which helped to rescue Jerusalem from the Infidels and for some time occupied its throne, and gave two titular kings to Jerusalem, Guy, 1185–90, Amaury, 1198–1205, and four kings to Cyprus. The castle was surprised and razed by the Catholics 1574, and a public walk occupies its site. The *Ch.* (M. H.), a dilapidated building of the 11th and 12th cents., has a portal ornamented with the signs of the zodiac.

18 m. *St. Maixent* Stat. (*Inn:* H. L'Ecu de France—extortionate), an old walled town, 4147 Inhab., on a height above the Sèvre.

Here is a very fine early Gothic *Ch.* (M. H.), and an old chapel under the principal altar, where are deposited the remains of St. Maixent, who founded the church, and St. Leger, &c. To it is attached a monastery, originally Benedictine now a seminary for priests. There are in the ch. some very beautiful wood-carvings. Diligence to 18 m. *Parthenay.* (Rte. 60.)

14 m. **Niort** Junct. Stat. (Buffet) (*Inns:* H. du Raisin de Bourgogne; H. de France, good; H. des Etrangers, noisy, but clean rooms), a modern town, capital of the Dépt. des Deux Sèvres, on the Sèvre Niortaise, 21,344 Inhab. The *old Castle*, surmounted by 2 keep-towers, each flanked by 8 turrets, remarkable as the birthplace, or at least the cradle, of Madame de Maintenon, whose profligate father, Constant d'Aubigné, was confined in it, is now the *Maison d'Arrêt.* There is a good artesian well and waterworks at Niort.

[Rly. to Bressuire (Rte. 61).]

21 m. *Surgères* Stat. There is a *Ch.* here of the 12th cent.

6 m. *Aigrefeuille* Junct. Stat. (Buffet). The rly. divides, one branch going to *Rochelle*, the other to *Rochefort.*

The N.W. branch traverses an uninteresting tract of flat, marshy land to

12 m. **La Rochelle** Junct. Stat. (*Inns:* H. de France, H. du Com-

merce). This third-rate fortress, and cheerful commercial town, is situated on the shore of the Bay of Biscay, facing the Iles de Ré and d'Oléron. It was capital of the district called the Pays Aunis, and is now chief town of the Dépt. de la Charente Inférieure. Before its memorable siege of 1628, it had a population of 27,000; at present it contains only 19,506.

Its little *port* is entirely inclosed by the buildings of the town, and consists of an outer tidal basin, and an inner wet dock, protected by a pier, and flanked at its entrance on either side by the round towers of La Chaîne and St. Nicholas, built in 1418 out of the remains of the castle. A quay, planted with trees, runs round the harbour, and forms an agreeable promenade.

Its chief commerce consists in the exportation of the brandy made in the adjoining districts of l'Aunis, the finest in France, of wine, corn, and flour.

At low water, the remains of the famous *dyke*, thrown out into the sea by order of Richelieu during the siege of 1628-29, and which contributed mainly to the surrender of the town, by interrupting all supplies and succour from England, are distinctly visible. This long pile of stones, stretching for a distance of 1640 yds. from the point of Coreille to that of Fort Louis, was built by the engineer Metezeau. Near it is *Le Mail*, a pleasant promenade.

Of the Gothic *Ch. of St. Laurent* there remain a ruined W. porch, rich in sculpture, and a fine tower, to which a modern ch. is annexed.

In the *Hôtel de Ville*, a handsome building in the style of the Renaissance, of the time of Francis I., is shown the chamber in which the heroic Guiton accepted the office of mayor on the eve of the siege, "on condition," said he, "that I be allowed to plunge into the heart of any one who speaks of surrender the dagger which I hold in my hand, which I insist shall be placed on the table of the council-chamber where we meet, to be used against myself first, should I be weak enough to propose a capitulation." Influenced by so obstinate a spirit of resistance, the citizens held out for 14 long months against the vast force brought against them, commanded by Cardinal Richelieu in person, and supported by the presence of Louis XIII. At length, when famine, which followed the vigilant blockade established on the land side, by throwing up lines 3 miles long, and by the dyke before-mentioned drawn across the harbour, had reduced the numbers of the besieged from 27,000 to 5000, La Rochelle, the bulwark of the Protestant cause in France, which had remained in the hands of the Huguenots since the first unsuccessful siege of 1573, was yielded up to the king, and its fortifications levelled, except the two towers at the mouth of the harbour. The ill success of the two expeditions fitted out by Charles I., whose favourite, Buckingham, contributed to the failure of the first by his incompetence, and who was assassinated by Felton while about to assume the command of the second, prepared the way for its fall. The town never regained its previous prosperity, though Protestants are still numerous here. By its capture, Richelieu destroyed the political influence of the Calvinists in France. The chair of Guiton, and the council-table of marble, are still preserved in the H. de Ville. His house, in the Rue Guiton, is also pointed out—a building in the style of the Renaissance, flanked with tourelles. Six or eight of the old town gates remain: the Tour de la Lanterne, a conspicuous structure, surmounted by a spire, is of the end of the 14th cent.

The Gothic *Porte de l'Horloge*, of the 16th cent., is another relic of the time of the *siege*, and there are some old houses still standing which must also have existed at that memorable period. Such was the extreme misery to which the inhabitants were reduced, that one of them declared that for a whole week he had kept his child alive solely by blood drawn from

his own veins. One of the articles of capitulation was, that Guiton should continue in the office of mayor, retaining all his dignities: he is lost sight of, however, after the siege.

The town was again fortified by Vauban in the reign of Louis XIV. The tower of the *Church of St. Sauveur*, the loftiest in the place, now used as a shot-tower, commands from its top an extensive view. About 2 m. off the shore, is the Ile d'Aix, opposite the mouth of the Charente: the fort and batteries upon it, defending the entrance of the roads, were captured by the English 1757, but have been greatly strengthened since that time.

The *Établissement des Bains* is situated on the Promenade or Mall, a grove of trees stretching along the shore. Much salt is made near the town, by evaporating the sea-water.

Rochelle is the birthplace of Réaumur, the celebrated entomologist, after whom a thermometric scale is named, and of Billaud de Varennes, member of the National Convention.

A few miles from the coast, opposite Rochelle, is the *Ile de Ré*, well known to English cruisers. It contains about 5600 Inhab. The town of St. Martin resisted successfully the attacks of the English under the Duke of Buckingham in 1628. At St. Martin are the ruins of an ancient abbey and two very old churches. The strait between the Ile de Ré and the mainland is called the *Pertuis Breton*, and that between the Ile de Ré and Oléron the *Pertuis d'Antioche*. There is nothing remarkable on Oléron (10,000 Inhab.), which, however, was in early times celebrated for the enterprise of its traders.

Rly. N. to La Roche-sur-Yon, and direct S. to

18 m. Rochefort (see Rte. 62).

From *Aigrefeuille* the S.W. branch rly. proceeds to

3 m. *Ciré* Stat., and on to

2 m. **Rochefort** Junct. Stat. (Hotel omnibus from rly.) (*Inns:* H. du Grand Bacha, good; H. des Etrangers), a fortress of 4th order, but standing third in importance among the naval arsenals of France, is built on the rt. bank of the Charente, about 10 m. from its junction with the sea; it contains 30,912 Inhab. The river is deep enough to float vessels of large size abreast of the town, having 20 ft. water at ebb, and 40 ft. at the high tides: five forts at its mouth protect the dockyard from hostile approach. Its position is well chosen, owing to its vicinity to the roadstead formed at the embouchure of the Charente, by the protection of the islands of Ré, Oléron, and Aix. In order further to defend the roadstead, a fort has been constructed at their mouth, on a sandbank called the Boyard, between the Ile d'Aix and Ile d'Oléron. Rochefort is quite a modern town, founded in 1664 for the establishment of a dockyard by Louis XIV., or rather by his minister Colbert, who saw the necessity for another military port and arsenal on the ocean besides Brest. Its streets are built at right angles, and the only buildings of consequence are those connected with the *Port Militaire* or *Dockyard*. Admission is given by the Major de la Marine, on application of the British consul. The model-room contains some curiosities. To describe the sailmakers' shops, the cable-twisting loft, the workshops whose machinery is set in motion by steam, would be nearly to repeat what has been said of Brest and Cherbourg.

The largest and most remarkable edifice here is the *Hôpital de la Marine*, outside the town, consisting of nine separate masses of building, containing 1200 beds. It is excellently arranged, and well kept, cleanly in the extreme. There is a tolerable anatomical museum attached to it.

Within its precincts has been bored one of the deepest *artesian wells*, pierced in strata extending from the *English greensand* beds to the *trias*. It has reached 2758 English ft.; that of Passy near Paris being only 1962 ft.

The town was originally unhealthy, owing to its low situation among the

marshes; but these have been drained, and fevers have become much less prevalent.

In the Grande Place is a *fountain* adorned with figures representing Old Ocean shaking hands with the Charente!

In 1809 Lord Cochrane penetrated into the *Basque Roads*, between the Ile de Ré and the Ile d'Oléron, with a small squadron, and burnt 4 vessels and captured 2 of the French fleet destined for the W. Indies, he himself steering the leading fire-ship, carrying 1500 barrels of powder and 400 shells, through the concentrated fire of 1000 guns!

On the 3rd July, 1815, Napoleon I. arrived at Rochefort, seeking to escape to America, and lodged at the Préfecture; but finding that the Bellerophon, an English line-of-battle ship, was at anchor in the Rade des Basques, and that there were no possible means of evading it, he went on board on the 15th, and sailed for England, after in vain attempting to obtain a pledge of safe-conduct from Captain Maitland.

SECTION IV.

LIMOUSIN—GASCONY—GUIENNE—THE PYRENEES—NAVARRE—BEARN—LANGUEDOC—ROUSSILLON.

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§ 1. DIRECTIONS FOR TRAVELLERS IN THE PYRENEES.—APPROACHES AND MOST DIRECT ROUTES.

Several lines of Railway now convey travellers, in a few hours, from Paris to the threshold of the Pyrenees, and circular-tour tickets may be obtained of the Chemin de fer du Midi. 1. The best and quickest route is—Paris; by Orleans; Tours; Poitiers, Angoulême, and Bordeaux (11 hrs.); and thence by Dax to Pau (6 hrs.). There is also a branch rly. from Bordeaux, by Mont de Marsan, Aire, and Tarbes to Bagnères de Bigorre, in 7 hrs.—total, 16½ and 17½ hrs.

2. From Paris by Orleans, Vierzon, Limoges, Périgueux, Agen (14¾ hrs). Toulouse, and Bagnères de Bigorre (7 hrs.). Total 22 hrs. Or from Agen by Auch, Mirande, Tarbes, and Bagnères de Bigorre, in 4½ hrs; in all, 19 hrs. In point of absolute distance, this will be the most direct.

3. The *Auvergne* may be seen on the way by taking the Bourbonnais line from Paris, passing Nevers, Moulins, Clermont, and Aurillac. Hence to Toulouse.

4. Paris, by Lyons, Avignon, Nimes, Montpellier, Toulouse, St. Gaudens, Tarbes, to Bagnères de Bigorre, Rly. This is a longer, but perhaps the most interesting route, owing to the many large towns that can be visited on the way.

Travellers pressed for time are recommended to go by Bordeaux and Pau, or Limoges, Périgueux, Agen, and Auch, and return by Toulouse, Carcassonne, and Narbonne, Nimes, Arles, Avignon, and Lyons.

The best starting points for making the tour of the Pyrenees will be Pau for those coming from the W., and Toulouse for travellers approaching from the N. or E. Those who do not intend to make a stay at any of the watering-places should dismiss their heavy baggage before they plunge into the mountains, sending it on by *railway*, from the one extreme point of their intended tour to the other, from Pau to Toulouse, or *vice versâ*.

The watering-places of the Pyrenees, ensconced each in its own beautiful valley, form good halting-places for the passing traveller who visits these mountains merely from curiosity to explore their beauties, and he may thus terminate almost every day's journey in a comfortable hotel, or at least in tolerable quarters. Almost every valley is accessible by a good *carriage-road*, but it stops at a certain distance, without surmounting the mountain ridge, or penetrating into Spain, except in three places (see below). As there are few carriage roads over even the lateral ridges from one valley into another, those who travel in carriages must often retrace their steps down the valleys. Pedestrians and equestrians may pass, in most instances, by foot or bridle paths, out of one valley into another across the secondary or lateral ridges which separate them, and thus enjoy some of the finest scenery without going twice over the same ground.

Pedestrians should be warned not to expect on the high mountains of the Pyrenees those Châlets to which they are accustomed to resort in the Alps.

Cows are not kept in the upper pastures, nor is hay stored or cheese made. The few shepherds crouch under shelves of rocks, or make a shed of a few rough stones. As a general rule, the explorer must start from a low and hot valley, and make a long ascent to reach the points of interest. Those who would shorten their journeys must be prepared to bivouac out; and to enable them to do this, should provide a sack to sleep in, as the custom-house officers do.

The length of the portion of the chain of the Pyrenees running between the Mediterranean and the Bay of Biscay, and forming the boundary line between France and Spain, is estimated at about 270 m. The highest parts of the chain are near the centre, and it descends considerably towards the Mediterranean and the Gulf of Gascony. The highest summits do not occur on the central ridge or main chain, but on the buttresses running from it to the S., and therefore belong to Spain. Only one summit within the French frontier, the Vignemale, attains an elevation of 11,000 ft., while 3 in the Spanish portion of the chain exceed that measure. The average length of the valleys running up from the plain to the crest of the mountains is about 36 m.

§ 2. Without doubt some of the finest scenery in France is to be found among the Pyrenees, which, though inferior in height, and on the whole in *grandeur* of scenery, number of snowy peaks, and area of glaciers, to the Alps, yet possess beauties peculiar to themselves, of which the Alps cannot boast. The sunny atmosphere, which they owe to their more southern latitude, gives a warmth or glow to the landscape which will in vain be sought farther to the N.; and this genial climate, while it banishes perpetual snow to a height of about 9000 ft. (*i. e.* 1300 ft. above the Alpine snow-line), also spreads a richness of sylvan decorations over these mountains unparalleled in Swiss scenery. Heights which in a more northern region would either be condemned to nakedness, or to a scanty growth of lichens, are here clothed in verdure to the very top; and precipitous rocks, elsewhere rejecting all vegetation, are tufted in every cranny and fissure with brushwood, especially with box, which thrives and spreads wonderfully.

But the pride and chief charm of the Pyrenees are their vast forests, the seas of undulating foliage which clothe their sides and tops, not merely of dark monotonous firs but oaks and beech: examples of these are presented in the upper part of the Val d'Ossau, near Gabas, in parts of the Val d'Argelez, the Val d'Aure, and at Ronceraux.

The meadows which carpet the lower slopes and bottom of the valleys equal if they do not surpass those of Switzerland in intense verdure produced by irrigation and sunshine, and approximate to the even surface of an English lawn; and while the plains of Languedoc and Provence are parched into a yellow desert, here the hues of spring are prolonged into summer and autumn, and the traveller is constantly refreshed by vernal gales. The valleys of the Pyrenees abound in glacier-marked rocks, which would lead the geologist to conclude that in comparatively recent epochs the glaciers must have been much more extensive than at the present day.

§ 3. The brawling rivers (*Gaves* is the local name, derived from the same Celtic root as our *Avon*) are remarkable, beyond those of almost any other country, for their excessive purity, and for tints resembling beryl and chrysoprase. The waterfalls are inferior to those of Switzerland. The finest are those of Conplan S. of Barége, and of Arse near Aulus. That of Gavarnie, the loftiest in Europe but one (in Norway), though 1300 ft. high, is a mere thread of water. Lakes are not wanting, but small in size and lying high up among the mountains, and difficult of access, and in this respect the inferiority of the Pyrenean mountains to those of Switzerland is most decided. The Lacs de Gaube, of Artouste (near Eaux-Chaudes), of Orredon, of Seculeijo (or Lac d'Oo), and the Lac Bleu, though very interesting from the adjuncts of scenery, precipices, and streamlets dashing into them, are mere mountain tarns.

The chain of the Pyrenees has in a considerable degree the character of a vast wall drawn from sea to sea, notched by frequent passes or *cols*, rarely more than 1000 ft. lower than the summit of the crest which surmounts them. From this reason, and also from the indolent nature of the Spaniards, and from the strong smuggling interest, only four high roads are practicable for crossing the chain by carriage—1. The *Grande Route*, from Paris to Madrid, running parallel with the rly., close to the Bay of Biscay, from Bayonne to Irun. 2. The *Route Départementale*, from Bayonne to Pampeluna, over the Col d'Urdax. 3. The road from Pau to Jaca, *good only on the French side*. 4. The E. *Grande Route*, from Perpignan, near the shores of the Mediterranean, over the Col de Pertus, to Figueras. There are, however, at least 50 passes known to, and used by, the shepherds and mountaineers, most of them practicable on horseback, and several easily convertible into carriage-roads. They are here called "*Ports*," a very expressive name, for in many instances they are literally doors cut in the crest of the mountains leading from France into Spain. The most striking of these are the "Brèche de Roland," and the Port de Venasque, the passage of which reveals the grandest, and almost the only, view of the Maladetta, the giant of the Pyrenees.

The valleys of the Pyrenees run nearly at rt. angles with the great dorsal ridge, descending from the central spine into the plain in a series of basins and gorges: the most considerable are the valleys of the Garonne and Ariège.

The most beautiful on the French side of the chain are the Val d'Argelès (which no one should omit seeing), Val d'Ossau, and valleys of the Garonne, Adour, and Lys, Val d'Aure, and Val d'Aran.

The most grand gorges are those leading from Pierrefitte to Cauterets and Luz, and that of Mahourat leading to Pont d'Espagne, and the approach to Eaux-Chaudes.

§ 4. Several Pyrenean valleys have a termination quite peculiar to this chain —in a *Cirque* or *Oule* (a local word, meaning pot, Latin *olla*), a vast circle or semicircle, excavated in the mass of the mountain, walled round by precipices of great height, surrounding two-thirds or three-fourths of the basin, and leaving no opening but that by which the waters escape. The finest of these Cirques is that of Gavarnie, at the head of the Val de Lavedan: its walls are loftiest and most perfect; that of Troumouse at the head of the Val d'Héas is larger, but not so deep: another occurs at the bottom of the Val Estaubé. The nearest approach to this peculiar configuration of the vale head in the Alps is at Leuk; but the precipices of the Gemmi, which wall it round, want the semicircular arrangement, as well as the waterfalls, the towers, and cylinders of rock, which give the grand character to the scenery of Gavarnie.

The valleys of the Pyrenees are separated from one another by lateral ridges descending like ribs or buttresses from the great chain, over which the communication is maintained by minor cols, called *Portillons*, or in some parts *Hourquettes*. Such are the passes of the Tourmalet and of the Hourquettes d'Arreau and d'Aspin.

Most visitors to the Pyrenees make a point of ascending one of the high peaks in the vicinity of the baths, either for the sake of the view, or to say they have been on such or such a peak: hence, "Avez-vous fait quelques ascensions?" is a common inquiry. The mountain which may be ascended with least trouble, and which repays well by its prospect, is the *Pic de Bergons*, above Luz. The *Pic du Midi de Bigorre*, conveniently reached from either Barèges or Bagnères de Bigorre, is loftier and more difficult. Less easy still are the Pic du Midi d'Ossau, the Brèche de Roland, and the *Canigou* in the E. Pyrenees; while the still more lofty Vignemale is no easy task to surmount, and the Mont Perdu is both difficult and dangerous—an exploit for a practised mountaineer; and the Maladetta wears snow on its crest never trodden by human foot until 1842.

§ 5. *A Dash into Spain*, of three or four days' duration, will add much to the

variety and interest of a journey among the Pyrenees. The points whence it may be made with most advantage are either from Bayonne to St. Sebastian, the antique town of Fontarabia, the land-locked harbour of Passages, and the Pass of Roncesvalles, from Eaux-Bonnes or Cauterets to the Baths of Panticosa, from Gavarnie to Bujaruelo and Fanlo, or from Luchon to Venasque and the Val d'Aran. The scenery on the Spanish side of the Pyrenees is perhaps grander and wilder than on the French. Those who attempt to explore it must be prepared to "rough it;" they will encounter a rude people, poor villages, accommodation of the very worst kind, yet expensive, paths scarcely passable, and cookery nauseous to those unused to it, owing to oil and garlic. The sudden transition from France to Spain, the total difference of people, language, manners, habitations, food, combined with the grander features of the mountain scenery, yield the chief zest to such a journey. It is scarcely practicable to travel in Spain, away from railroads and the chief cities, without a guide or a servant who knows the country and language unless you speak Spanish. N.B. In Spain always make a bargain on entering an Inn. The fare is not generally attractive, but you may generally count on tolerable bread and good chocolate. An invitation to one of the *Spanish Bullfights*, which are held every year in all the large towns of the N. of Spain, may tempt some to penetrate farther into the country. (See the HANDBOOK FOR TRAVELLERS IN SPAIN.)

§ 6. The inhabitants of the Pyrenees, composed of various races, interesting for their antiquity, customs, costumes, &c., are worthy of the attention of the traveller. At the W. extremity of the chain, S. of Bayonne, are the *Basques*, the aborigines of W. Europe, who have seen Carthaginians, Celts, Romans, Goths, Saracens, pass before them, and still remain in possession of their mountain home, part in France, part in Spain, speaking a language, the Euskarian, which has nothing in common with any other of Europe. (See Rte. 77.)

The peasantry of Béarn, who occupy the beautiful Val d'Ossau and its tributaries, the land of Henri IV., in the midst of which he spent the years of childhood, are a fine race, retaining, with their very peculiar *patois*, much of their primitive simplicity of manners, and their ancient costumes; the men wearing the berret or cap, like the Lowland bonnet of the Scotch, and a red sash round the waist; the women covering their heads with the red hood or capulet. In the E. Pyrenees the people of Foix and Roussillon have a considerable resemblance, in character, dress, and language, to the Catalans of Spain.

Independently of the Basque language, the inhabitants of the Pyrenees speak different dialects of the Romance tongue, Gascon, Béarnais, Catalan, &c. Most of them, however, can speak French. The French spoken S. of Bordeaux has a somewhat English sound, and is pronounced much as Froissart spelt it.

§ 7. The proscribed and outcast race called *Cagots* exists at present more in tradition than in reality among the Pyrenees. Individuals of this class are no longer to be identified, although there are still families said to be descended from them, but the ban of caste no longer hangs over them, as in 1793 the French Revolution gave them the rights of other men. In many of the village churches are separate entrances, and holy-water basins, which were made for the use of the Cagots; also low windows, to enable them to see mass celebrated. There are various theories to account for their origin and name, none of them satisfactory—for example, that they are the descendants of the Goths, dispossessed of Aquitaine by Clovis—"chiens de Goths," whence Cagots, by a somewhat forced derivation. 2nd. That they sprang from the Saracens who stayed behind in France after their defeat by Charles Martel in the 8th century. 3rd. That they were lepers, banished from human haunts for fear of infection; or, what seems more probable, fugitives

tainted with heresy and driven apart from the community by the prejudices and aversion of the Romish priesthood. They are now nearly lost through intermixture with the mass of the population.*

§ 8. *The Sportsman* will find occupation among the Pyrenees in the pursuit of the bear, the wolf, the ibex or *bouquetin*, and the chamois or *izard*, though these animals are growing rarer every year. The bouquetin, especially, is almost extinct; if anywhere, he may be found on the Maladetta. The izard is not uncommon, and the best localities for enjoying this chase will be from Eaux-Bonnes, where are capital guides (see Rte. 83), the snow-fields of the Vignemale, the Mont Perdu, and the Maladetta, or in the Spanish Val de Broto.

The izard is hunted either by stalking, in the manner in which the red deer is stalked, though with much more difficulty and danger, amidst precipices, glaciers, and snow-fields, until, after a tedious pursuit, the huntsman may have the chance of a steady shot, or by driving the animals by guides and mountain shepherds towards the spot where the sportsman is posted. Success in this case entirely depends on the knowledge possessed by the guides of the habits and haunts of the izard.

The rivers are so much netted as greatly to interfere with the sport of angling; a scientific fisherman, however, would doubtless find scope for the exercise of his rod among its innumerable Gaves and mountain streams. An establishment for salmon pisciculture has been opened at Cambo.

§ 9. *History and Antiquities.*—The passage of the Pyrenees by Hannibal, and afterwards by Cæsar, with large armies, are the earliest events of importance connected with these mountains. The pass by which they crossed was that of Perthus, at the E. end of the chain. Charlemagne's advance into Spain, in 778, was through that of *Roncevaux*, where he received the memorable check so celebrated in history and romance, chiefly at the hands of the hardy mountaineers, the Basques, who fell upon his rear guard while entangled in the defiles, and killed many of his "paladins and peers," amongst them the renowned Roland, who has left his name upon the highest mountain ridge of the chain in the so-called Brèche, cleft through the rock, according to the tradition, by a swashing blow of his sword Durandal. The valleys and passes of the Pyrenees, like those of all other border countries, abound in *castles* and watch-towers, relics of feudal times, when war and rapine was the business of a great portion of the inhabitants, especially of all who claimed to be noble or gentle. Those who would know something of the history of these ruined hill forts, and of the mode of life of those who occupied them in the 14th century, of the marauding expeditions which went out from them on border forays, to harry the cattle or fair fields of some neighbouring chief, of ambuscades to rob the burgess of the neighbouring towns of his merchandise, or capture some wealthy ecclesiastic or seigneur of eminence, and clap him into the deep dungeon until a ransom was paid, must refer to the delightful pages of *Froissart's Chronicles*, the oldest and best handbook for the Pyrenees, which he traversed and threaded in various directions, picking up anecdotes for his history. In his time many of these strongholds were held by English garrisons for the Black Prince, the province of Gascony, with Bigorre, having been ceded to the English as part of the ransom of the French king, John, captured at Poitiers. The tradition of the country, indeed, attributes the building of some of the castles to the Black Prince. He led an English army into Navarre, to reinstate Peter the Cruel on the throne of Spain, through the pass of Roncevaux, the scene of the "dolorous rout" of Charlemagne.

Four centuries and a half later the Pyrenees once more became connected with English history, and in a more glorious cause.

* The best account of the Cagots is contained in the 'Histoire des Races maudites de la France et de l'Espagne, par N. Fr. Michel,' Paris, 1847; an excellent work, and reliable authority.

"Many of these romantic heights are endeared to an Englishman by the recollection of gallant deeds of British valour performed at the close of the Peninsular war."—*S.* To visit the scenes of the masterly passage of the Bidassoa, and of the Adour below Bayonne, the spot where the fatal sortie took place under the walls of that fortress, the heights of Orthez, and those where the hard-contested but decisive and final battle of Toulouse was fought, cannot but add to the interest of the journey. It will augment the satisfaction of an Englishman, on visiting the theatre of the war, to know that the British commander, so far from displaying the insolence of a conqueror on entering the French territory, took measures to repress rigidly all acts of plunder on the part of his troops, by very severe discipline. No inconsiderable difficulty was at first experienced in restraining the Spaniards, smarting under the oppression and wrongs inflicted on their fatherland by the soldiery of the country which they then entered in triumph, and expecting to avenge upon its inhabitants the injuries they themselves had suffered. The firmness of the British commander, however, succeeded in alleviating, as far as possible, the horrors of war to the French: the two following extracts, one from a general order of the Duke issued after the passage of the Bidassoa, the other from a letter written by him to a Spanish officer, will show how great care he took to effect this.

General Order.—"The Commander of the Forces is particularly desirous that the inhabitants should be well treated, and private property must be respected, as it has been hitherto.

"The officers and soldiers of the army must recollect that their nations are at war with France, solely because the ruler of the French nation will not allow them to be at peace, and is desirous of forcing them to submit to his yoke; and they must not forget that the worst of the evils suffered by the enemy in his profligate invasion of Spain and Portugal have been occasioned by the irregularities of the soldiers, and their cruelties authorized and encouraged by their chiefs towards the unfortunate and peaceful inhabitants of the country.

"To revenge this conduct on the peaceable inhabitants of France would be unmanly and unworthy of the nations to whom the Commander of the Forces now addresses himself; and, at all events, would be the occasion of similar and worse evils to the army at large than those which the enemy's army have suffered in the Peninsula; and would, eventually, prove highly injurious to the public interests." * * *

To General ——, a Spanish Officer.—"I did not lose thousands of men to bring the army under my command into the French territory, in order that the soldiers might plunder and ill-treat the French peasantry, in positive disobedience to my orders; and I beg that you and your officers will understand, that I prefer to have a small army that will obey my orders, and preserve discipline, to a large one that is disobedient and undisciplined; and that, if the measures which I am obliged to adopt to enforce obedience and good order occasion the loss of men and the reduction of my force, it is totally indifferent to me; and the fault rests with those who, by the neglect of their duty, suffer their soldiers to commit disorders which must be prejudicial to their country." —*Wellington Dispatches.*

§ 10. *Hot Springs—Character of the Watering-Places—Baths in the Pyrenees.* —The bounty with which Nature has poured forth, throughout the whole range of the Pyrenean mountains, mineral sources of healing quality, of various kinds, adapted to the various ills which flesh is heir to, is truly surprising, and an interesting natural phenomenon. It has been calculated that in the whole chain there are not less than 200 springs, many of them at a high temperature. It has been observed that they usually issue near the junction of the primitive or igneous rocks, as granite, ophite, or porphyry, with some sedimentary formation, chiefly limestone. The value of these natural remedies

was not unknown to the Romans, traces of whose constructions have been discovered near many of the hot sources. At present the French in vast numbers resort to the various watering-places during the summer and autumn. English travellers have been comparatively few hitherto.

The following is a brief list of the principal watering-places, beginning from the W., with a notice of the nature of their mineral waters.

Eaux-Bonnes.—A fashionable resort, consisting of a row of fine tall houses, chiefly modern, and Parisian in style, in a wild mountain nook. The water is sulphureous. This place is much frequented by persons afflicted with complaints of the lungs. Very good accommodation.

Eaux-Chaudes.—Water sulphureous, nearly like Eaux-Bonnes, from which it is only 3 m. distant; good but limited accommodation, romantic scenery around.

Cauterets.—Sulphureous waters. A neat mountain town, in an upland valley surrounded by colossal peaks. Plenty of accommodation, and good; also a place of fashionable resort. In autumn frequented by many Spaniards. Climate bracing, if not cold, from the elevation of the site. Excursions numerous. Its waters and site are considered efficacious in bronchial complaints and rheumatism.

St. Sauveur.—Feebly sulphureous. An attractive watering-place of a few dozen lodging-houses. Charming walks; fine scenery around.

Barèges.—A perfect hospital, thronged with invalids; inferior accommodation; a village in a dreary gorge, which nothing but the hope of recovering health would render endurable beyond an hour or two; yet the efficacy of its waters is astonishing, and in a medical point of view it deserves its celebrity, more extended over Europe than that of any other Pyrenean watering-place. It is often quite full in the season, and lodgings dear. A keen atmosphere, owing to its great elevation.

Bagnères de Bigorre.—Saline springs; one ferruginous. A considerable town, much more than a mere watering-place, seated just within the roots of the Pyrenees on the verge of the plain, and not much raised above it; climate warm. Varied amusements and resources; pleasant excursions. The tepid baths are efficacious only for slight complaints.

Bagnères de Luchon.—One of the gayest, most luxurious watering-places in Europe; magnificently situated in the bottom of a basin surrounded by mountains; resorted to for pleasure as well as cure. Its waters are sulphureous and hot—efficacious in rheumatic and cutaneous affections. There are charming excursions in its vicinity.

In the Eastern Pyrenees:—

Ussat and *Ax,* in the valley of the Ariége, amid grand scenery; provided with comfortable and improving hotels and bath-houses. The waters of Ussat are saline, and specially efficacious in nervous complaints: those of Ax are sulphureous.

Vernet, frequented at all seasons, owing to the mildness of the climate, on the W. slope of the Canigou. Comfortable accommodation at the Thermes.

Amélie les Bains, in the narrow gorge of the Tech valley, 800 ft. high, yet sheltered; chiefly chosen as a Station d'hiver; sulphur baths; vapour inhaled for chest complaints and rheumatism. Comfortable winter accommodation for invalids at the Thermes; charges moderate. Very pleasant until May. Too hot in summer.

At every French watering-place there is a medical inspector appointed by the Government, and invalids intending to take a course of the waters had better put themselves in communication with him. He will assist them respecting lodgings, and assign to them a fixed hour for bathing, which they will retain

during the time of their stay; it is said that without his order baths cannot be obtained: that may be the case with permanent bathers, but a passing traveller will find no difficulty in obtaining a bath.

The *Bath Houses* (*Etablissements Thermals*) of the Pyrenees are, in some instances, behind those of Germany in orderly and medical arrangement; they have, however, been much improved since 1852, and a grand exception is afforded by the bath-houses at Bagnères de Luchon, Eaux-Bonnes, &c. In some places, the *cabinets de bain* are still dark hot cells; the baths themselves, though of marble, mere troughs, resorted to only by those who need, and are thoroughly convinced of their sanative power.

§ 11. *Works on the Pyrenees; Map.*—The best descriptions of the Pyrenees are the works of Ramond (the Saussure of these mountains) "Observations dans les Pyrénées,' and 'Voyages au Mont Perdu.' *Joanne,* 'Itinéraire des Pyrénées,' Paris, Hachette, is considerably indebted to this *Handbook*, which had preceded the original edition 16 years. To both of these works the small 'Guide to the Pyrenees,' of Charles Packe, is under obligation; but it is a good book, based on personal observation, and likely to be useful to those bent on high mountain expeditions, and anxious to dispense with guides. 'Les Grandes Ascensions des Pyrénées,' par Count Henri Russell Killough, is a very handy book for pedestrians. Dr. Macpherson's *Baths and Wells of Europe*, 2nd edit., 1873, gives an admirable account of the medicinal waters of France, the Pyrenees, &c., and will be found very useful to English and American invalids going abroad. Lawlor's 'Pilgrimages in the Pyrenees and Landes,' Longmans, 1870; and Count Henry Russell's 'Pau and the Pyrenees,' Longmans, 1871, are useful books.

Nos. 226 to 258 inclusive, of the French *dépôt de la Guerre* maps, include the whole of the Pyrenees, scale $\frac{1}{80000}$, price 4 frs. each sheet.

The map of the central part of the chain, engraved expressly for this *Handbook*, renders any other map almost unnecessary: it is an accurate reduction from the 'Trigonometrical Survey' published by the French Government.

§ 12. SKELETON TOUR OF THREE OR FOUR WEEKS, TO INCLUDE THE MOST INTERESTING OBJECTS IN THE W. PYRENEES.

PAU. Starting-point to—
Eaux-Bonnes and Eaux-Chaudes.
Gabas.
* Col de Tortes—carriage road passing near it.
Val d'Azun.
Argelez, or Pierrefitte.
Cauterets.
* Pont d'Espagne, Lac de Gaube [or from *Eaux-Chaudes to Panticosa in Spain, returning by Pont d'Espagne to Cauterets.]
Gorge of Pierrefitte.
Luz, or St. Sauveur.
Gavarnie.
* Brèche de Roland, back to Luz [or to Bujaruelo and Fanlo in Spain, and back].
* Val d'Héas.
* Vignemale.
Baréges.
Tourmalet.
* Pic du Midi de Bigorre.
Bagnères de Bigorre.
* Lac Bleu.
Hourquette d'Aspin—carriage road.
Arreau.
Tramesaïgues and the Upper Val d'Aure.
Port de Peyresourdes.
Bagnères de Luchon.
* Lac d'Oo and Lacs Glacés.
Val de Lys.
* Port de Venasque, Venasque, Viella.
St. Beat, in Val d'Aran.
Montrejeau and
Toulouse by Rail.

N.B. This mark * denotes places which cannot be reached in carriages, but only on horseback or foot.

TOUR BY CARRIAGE, RAIL, AND POST-ROADS.

Pau, Eaux-Chaudes and Eaux-Bonnes.
Col de Tortes (Rte. Thermale), Arrens, Argelez, Cauterets.
Pierrefitte, Luz, Gavarnie, Baréges.
Tourmalet, Bagnères de Bigorre, Valley of Gripp, Arreau.
Port de Peyresourdes, Luchon.
Cierp, St. Beat.
St. Gaudens.
St. Girons, Foix, Ax.
Toulouse.

N.B. Ladies may be *carried* up to most of the points of interest in a chaise à porteurs.

FORTNIGHT TOUR.

Days.
1 Bordeaux to Dax and Pau by railway; 6 hours.
2 At Pau: visit castle, &c. Carriage to Eaux-Chaudes, Val de Gabas.
3 To Panticosa: a long day.
4 Across Port de Marcadaou to Cauterets.
5 To Lac de Gaube and back.
6 Carriage to Luz and Gavarnie.
7 Ascend to Brèche de Roland, and return to Luz.
8 Bagnères de Bigorre, by the Tourmalet.
9 To Bagnères de Luchon, by Col d'Aspin.
10 At Luchon.
11 Ride to Port de Venasque.
12 Ride to Lac d'Oo.
13 Ride to Val d'Aran.
14 Rail. to Toulouse.

ITINERARY OF THE FRENCH PYRENEES FROM BORDEAUX TO PERPIGNAN.

Days.	*Night Quarters.*	*Objects of Interest.*
1, 2	Bayonne.	Cathedral. — Citadel. — Guards' Cemetery. — Biarritz.
3, 4	St. Sebastian and back, by Rail.	Irun and Fuentarabia, curious Spanish towns.—See Citadel of St. S. and walk to Passages.
5	St. Jean Pied de Port.	(*Inn*: H. de France) on the slope of a hill, crowned by the citadel.
6, 7	Roncesvalles, 15 m.	Arrange about passport, horses, &c., at St. Jean.—Drive to Valcarlos, 7 m.: thence 3 hrs.' walk or ride to Roncevaux.—A poor village.—The Abbey is tenantless; but there is an Inn.
8	Oloron.	By Mauléon (Hôtel Habiague), a Basque town, and Tardets.
9	Val d'Aspe.	Bedous, best sleeping-place, but poor.—Fort of Urdos.
10, 11	Eaux-Chaudes; Val d'Ossau.	Cross from Escot by the Col de Marie Blanche, and Plan de Benou (the bed of a former lake), to Bielle in Val d'Ossau.
12	Pau.	Ascent of Pic du Midi d'Ossau, from Eaux-Chaudes.
13	Eaux-Bonnes.	
14	Or if you do not wish to visit Pau,	Cross Col de Tortes and descend Val d'Azun to Argelez.

Days.	*Night Quarters.*	*Objects of Interest.*
15	Argeles.	Argelez.—St. Savin.—Pierrefitte.
16	Cauterets.	Ascend Monné; 10 hrs. up and down.
17	Panticosa. Baths.	Visit, on the way, the Pont d'Espagne and Lac de Gaube.
18	Gavarnie.	Cirque de Gavarnie cascade and Brèche de Roland.
19	Luz.	Church.—Pic de Bergons.—St. Sauveur. If Val d'Héas also, sleep at Gavarnie and scale the Brèche next day.
20	By Barèges and the Tourmalet to Bagnères de Bigorre.	By Barèges, which may be seen en passant. Turn off at foot of Tourmalet, and ride up by the Lac d'Oncet to the top of the Pic du Midi. Sleep at Gripp, if unable to reach Bagnères. Start early.
21 22	Bagnères de Bigorre.	See marble-works.—Baths.—Walks.—Visit Lac Bleu.—Pic du Midi de Bagnères.
23	Arreau.	Ascend Pène de l'Héris. Cross the Col d'Aspin to Arreau.
24 25	Aragnouet or Hospice de Coubise; miserable quarters. At Castels, chez le garde forestier; clean.	Ascend Val d'Aure by Vielle Aure, beyond which it divides into several branches. That called Val d'Aragnouet and Gorge de Couplan contains *magnificent* mountain scenery, forests, cascades. —Return to Arreau.
26	Arreau.	Ascend Val de Louron to Lac d'Oo, descend Val d'Oo to Luchon.
27	Bagnères de Luchon.	Val de Lys.—Go or return by Super Bagnères.
28	Luchon or Venasque	Port de Venasque—ascending Vallée de le Pique—Trou du Taureau—returning by Port de la Piquade, to Luchon. *N.B.* This excursion may be extended to Venasque, and round the Maladetta to Vidaliez and Viella, in the Val d'Aran.
29	Val d'Aran; Lez.	By Port de Portillon to Œil or Sources de la Garonne by Castel Leon and Viella.—Sleep at Baths of Lez.
30	Cierp or Luchon.	Below Lez the finest part of Val d'Aran.—St. Beat.
31	St. Bertrand de Comminges.	See the church and remains of Lugdunum Convenarum below the town.—Ride up Val de Barousse to Mauléon. The mountains are pierced with caverns.
32	St. Gaudens.	Montrejeau Stat. on rly. to St. Gaudens by La Basse Grotte de Gargas, 5 m. from St. Bertrand, near Tibiran.
33	Foix.	By RAIL, which, though a circuit, is the quickest.
34	Tarascon.	Visit Iron Mines of Vicdessos, in the upper valley of the Ariége.
35 36	Ax or Mt. Louis.	Cross to Puycerda and Bourg Madame by Puymorin. Arrange with the Douane to take a horse across the frontier. Sleep at Bourg Madame or at La Cabanasse below the fortress of Mt. Louis.
37 38	Vernet.	Ride by Olette down Vale of Tet. Ascend Canigou: must start early. Next day, by rail, to Perpignan, and by diligence to Amélie les Bains.

§ 13. PASSPORTS—CONVEYANCES—ACCOMMODATION FOR TRAVELLERS.

Passports.—Those who mean to enter Spain should obtain a Spanish Consul's visa at Bordeaux or Bayonne, to prevent their being mistaken for refugees or smugglers, though passports are not often asked for in the mountains, but may be required on re-entering France—they should also provide themselves with the SPANISH HANDBOOK.

Railways, Public Conveyances, &c.—The lines of rly. have penetrated into the valleys of the Pyrenees, and branch lines now extend from Pau and Tarbes to Bagnères de Bigorre; from Boussens on the line from Tarbes to Toulouse, to St. Girons; from Toulouse to Foix; from Carcassonne up the valley of the Ariége to Limoux and Quillan, and from Montrejeau to Bagnères de Luchon, from all of which the most interesting sites to which wheel conveyances can reach can be arrived at by vehicles in attendance on the arrival of the trains; and good diligences traverse the whole of the *Route Thermale*, a fine road skirting the mountains, and uniting the principal spas.

Inns.—The best hotels are at Pau, Eaux-Bonnes, and Luchon; tolerable inns at Cauterets, Luz, and Bagnères de Bigorre. The traveller must not expect anything like Swiss comfort, although the inns at the Pyrenean watering-places have greatly improved as regards cleanliness and cookery of late years.

The *charges* vary much, especially for rooms, according to the season, rising exorbitantly in July and August, when there is a great influx of visitors. Provisions are cheap.—Bed, 2 f. to 4 f.; dinner (table-d'hôte), 4 f. to 5 f.; breakfast à la fourchette, 2 f. to 3 frs.; tea or coffee, 1 fr. 50 c. On ordinary occasions the traveller's expenses ought not to exceed 15 f. per diem; and if he stops a week or longer in an hotel, he may often bargain for 10 f. The chance traveller is often asked 3, 4, or 5 f. for the worst bedroom during a single night in the season.

Izard venison, game of different kinds, ortolans, truffles, mountain-trout, green figs, and strawberries, are amongst the principal delicacies of the table in the Pyrenees.

The remote valleys—Val d'Aran, Val d'Aure, and all those on the Spanish side—are miserably off for inns. Good chocolate may generally be had, but travellers should always take provisions thither, such as biscuits, tea, cold fowls, ham, brandy, &c. &c.

Riding horses, or rather ponies, not bad looking, hardy, capable of work, and well used to the mountains, are kept at all the watering-places. The charges vary according to the distance, usually 5 f. a day, not including the feed. For any excursion not lasting beyond the day, horses can be hired for the ride, as at an English watering-place, without any attendant.

Guides.—There are trustworthy professional guides, well acquainted with the mountains, and many of them capital mountaineers and skilful sportsmen; though not, perhaps, so good as the guides of Switzerland or Savoy. The best are to be met with at Eaux-Bonnes, Cauterets, Luz, Bagnères de Bigorre and Luchon. The pedestrian should remember that as the guides let out horses, they do all in their power to discourage excursions on foot. A good plan for those who wish to walk is to inquire for an izard hunter. These men are used to walking, and well acquainted with the mountains. A guide receives 6 or 7 f. a day, feeding and lodging himself. A horse must be provided for him, unless the traveller is willing to be retarded by his following on foot. Return-money, for horse and man, until the guide can reach his home from the place where he is dismissed, is generally expected. A guide is almost indispensable in Spain, to supply the deficiencies in the inns and to procure food, &c. The Société Ramond, at Bagnères de Bigorre, prints a list of guides recommended at different stations in the Pyrenees.

It should be observed that the time charged as a day is longer, and the pace both on foot and on horseback faster than in Switzerland. The horses are good, and trot over the mountain-paths wherever they have an opportunity. No pedestrian can hope to keep up with them for the whole day. Where an hour's walk is mentioned in the following pages, it must be understood to mean good walking.

Dogs, Wolves, Bears.—In the mountains wolves and bears are now not common, but the flocks are guarded by remarkably fine savage dogs. These not unfrequently attack strangers, and the wanderer not armed with a revolver or thick stick may protect himself with stones.

Chaises à Porteurs.—There is scarcely an excursion off the high-roads, however distant, or a mountain-top, or other spot, however difficult of access, which ladies may not reach by the aid of a chair on poles. Each lady will require from 4 to 6 bearers; the cost is 15 f. a day, and 3 or 4 f. pour boire. This conveyance has been pronounced by a lady traveller "at once the gentlest, safest, and most agreeable mode of conveyance imaginable. The chairmen will go anywhere and everywhere; and instead of being rocked and jolted in a dislocating machine, those who cannot walk, and fear to ride, are carried about like petted children, without the risk of fatigue or the probability of danger."—*Mrs. Boddington.*

A not unusual drawback to excursionizing in the Pyrenees is the liability of the traveller to diarrhœa, which is variously attributed to the food, the water, the wine, and the heat. Few travellers escape an attack of this malady. It generally yields to the usual remedies, but is sometimes very obstinate and continues after the mountains have been left.

ROUTE 70.

ORLEANS TO LIMOGES — RAIL.

	Kil.	Miles.
Orleans		
Vierzon	79	50
Châteauroux	142	88
Argenton	173	107
La Souterraine	220	137
Limoges	279	175

6 trains daily, in 6 to 10 hrs.

This line nearly follows that of the old post-road, traversing, as far as Vierzon, the district of *La Sologne*, noted for its barrenness; a large part of it being waste land, heath, and common; a dead flat of hungry sandy gravel, the surface slightly varied, and the scenery monotonous. The name Sologne (*Segalonia*) has been derived from "segale," seigle, rye, the crop chiefly produced on its unproductive soil.

The rly. on leaving Orleans makes a détour parallel to the E. Boulevard, and crosses the Loire by a fine bridge resting on the île Charlemagne, passing near numerous country-houses of the inhab. of Orleans, and close to (rt.) the Château de la Source and the river *Loiret* (Rte. 49).

14 m. *La Ferté St. Aubin* Stat. At the entrance of this village, l., stands the Château, once the property of the Danish general, Lowendahl, who served in the armies of France with Marshal Saxe, and was made Maréchal de France for his share in the capture of Bergen-op-Zoom. It afterwards belonged to the Prince d'Essling, son of Marshal Massena. It is a low building, surrounded by water. The name *Ferté*, an old form of fortifié, denotes the existence, in ancient times, of a castle, embattled and fortified by royal permission, granted to the seigneur.

10 m. *Lamotte Beuvron* Stat.

The late Emp. Nap. III. made extensive purchases of land hereabouts in 1849, in order to make experiments for the improvement of the Sologne, and by scientific agriculture to reclaim it from its proverbial state of a barren desert.

14 m. *Nouan le Fuzelier* Stat. Up to this place the country is desolate in appearance, the only remarkable objects being the windmills. Bees are reared, and honey produced in large quantities hereabouts.

7 m. *Salbris* Stat. the *Sauldre* is crossed. (*Inn*, H. de la Promenade.)

8 m. *Theillay* Stat. The railway now enters a deep cutting, followed by the tunnel of L'Allouette, 1350 yds. long, to emerge into the valley of the Cher. After which, through a pretty country, reaches

6 m. **Vierzon** Junct. Stat. (Buffet).—(*Inns:* H. du Bœuf; H. des Messageries, noisy—both indifferent.) A town of 8221 Inhab., in the Dépt. du Cher. The Canal de Berry passes through it, and the Yévre here joins the river Cher. The iron of Berry, manufactured in furnaces not far from the town, is exported; and coal is brought hither to smelt it; there are large pottery and hardware works, employing 800 persons. At Vierzon the valley of the Cher is cheerful, and on its borders are some vineyards. The Evre, the canal of the Loire, and the Cher, are crossed on quitting Vierzon.

[Rly. S.E. to Bourges, Nevers, Moulins, and Vichy (Rte. 101), and W. 70 m. to Tours by Villefranche-sur-Cher and *Chenonceaux* (see Rte. 53A).]

We have now entered the ancient province of Berry, and leave sand and marsh for cultivation and vines: this district has been called the Switzerland of France.

18 m. *Ste. Lizaigne* Stat. Here are some ironworks.

5 m. *Issoudun* Stat. Hotel omnibus from Rly. (*Inns:* H. de France; H. Trois Rois.) A pretty town of 14,261 Inhab., in the centre of an agricultural district. On l. is a ruined round tower (*Tour Blanche*, M. H.) belonging to a *Castle*, built in the time of Richard Cœur-de-Lion, inhabited by Chas. VII. In the chapel of the *Hôtel Dieu*, close to the bridge and the Faub. St. Paterne, there is a Tree of Jesse elaborately sculptured. The *Ch. of St. Cyr* has a fine flamboyant E. window with good stained glass.

Rt. lies the Château of Valençay.

17 m. **Châteauroux** Stat. (*Inns:* H. Ste. Catherine; H. de France; H. de la Promenade.) This town, capital of the Dépt. de l'Indre (Pop. 18,670), is of little interest to the traveller, but of considerable industrial importance, owing to its extensive manufacture of woollens. The wools of Berry are almost exclusively used in their fabrication. Some trade is also carried on in iron, there being many iron furnaces in the départ., employing some 2000 workmen, a large number of whom are engaged at the government establishment, the *Manufacture du Parc*. The *Château Raoul*, on an eminence above the Indre, close to, and forming part of, the *Prefecture*, is a gloomy building, flanked by turrets, probably of the 15th cent. It occupies the site of an older castle, from which the town takes its name, built in the 10th cent. by Raoul, lord of Déols. The unfortunate Clémence de Maillé, Princesse de Condé and niece of Richelieu, died here, after an imprisonment of 23 years, in 1694. The Grand Condé, her husband, repaid her devotion to him, by procuring from Louis XIV. an order for her imprisonment; and his last dying request to the king was, that she should never be set free.

A *Church* has been built by the side of the heavy tower of *St. Martial*. The Government *Manufacture des Tabacs*, near the stat., employs 1000 hands.

Gen. Bertrand, who accompanied Napoleon to St. Helena, was born in the Castle in 1773, and died in the town in 1844. His *statue*, by Rude, was set up in 1854. There are some relics of Napoleon I. in the library of the Hôtel de Ville.

[At *Bourg Dieu* (or Déols), situated within a few miles of Châteauroux, are ruins of an ancient monastery and *Ch.* distinguished for its magnificent lofty Romanesque *tower* and spire, 12th cent. The rest of the ch. was pulled down for building materials after 1830. The *Ch. of St. Étienne* contains, in a crypt under the altar, a sculptured marble sarcophagus; the tomb of *St. Ludre*, the object of annual pilgrimages. The bas-relief is very ancient, and represents a Chase. One of the old *town gates*, a venerable structure, still remains. Déols was once the capital of the province.]

Diligences to Tours by Loches (Rte. 56). Rly. in progress, and also in progress S.E. to Montluçon.

16 m. *Chabenet* Stat. Limekilns. Old *castle*. The rly. here crosses the Creuse, and afterwards over a dreary country of heath, suddenly terminated by a long tunnel, on emerging from which the *Bousanne* is crossed on a lofty viaduct.

3 m. **Argenton** Stat. (Buffet) (*Inn:* H. de la Promenade), a town of 5274 Inhab., on the Creuse: it had once a large and strong castle flanked by 10 high towers, dismantled and blown up by Louis XIII. and XIV., and farther reduced to ruin in recent times, so that a few fragments of broken wall are alone visible on the W. side. Some Roman baths were discovered here during the construction of the railway. There are manufactories of woollens, paper, &c., along the river-side.

[Many interesting *Excursions*, walks, and drives may be made from this.

a. St. Marcel, 2 m., old walled town; fine ch. (M. H.), partly of 11th cent. The neighbourhood abounds in *old castles;* 1 day may be well spent in ascending the Bouzanne Valley to Rocherolle, Prunget, and Maziéres, &c.

b. A second day may be given to the charming valley of the Creuse (*Le Blanc* and the *Abbey of Fontgombault* are described in Rte. 65), to the (8 m.) village and *Ch. of Gargilesse*, 13th cent., described by George Sand: see in it traces of old fresco-tomb of William de Nailac. Close to it are portions of the old castle. (Mdme. Malesset's *Inn* is recommended by George Sand.) Near this is the mill and *Castle* of *la Pruneau-Pot*, and not far off another ruin, the Castle of Châteaubrun.

c. 15 m. from Argenton on the Bouzanne is the very interesting *round Ch. of Newy St. Sepulchre*, founded, as an imitation of the Ch. of the Holy Sepulchre, by Geoffrey, Viscount de Bourges, in 1045, the date of the lower part of the building. The nave was rebuilt in 1170; the dome is modern. A model of the Holy Sepulchre which stood in the midst was removed 1806.]

The central granitic plateau of France is crossed between Argenton and Thiviérs.

The Creuse is crossed on a handsome bridge of 3 arches, each 60 ft. span. We now enter the province of La Marche: the mountains of the Creuse are seen in the distance.

13 m. *Eguzon* Stat. (*Inns:* H. Boule d'Or; H. Chêne Vert). The village, 1½ m. E., is described by George Sand, who spent part of her youth here, in the 'Péché de M. Antoine.'

15 m. *La Souterraine* Stat. (*Inns:* H. de France; H. des Voyageurs). The *Ch.* (M. H.) is a fine and very curious building of the end of 12th cent., adapted for defence, and with a large crypt. A picturesque old gateway in the town (14th cent.). ¾ m. beyond this is the tunnel of Serephie, 1100 yds. long.

The great *Viaduct of Rocherolle*, over the *Gartempe*, one of the highest in France, consists of a double tier of arches, 4 below, 8 above, each nearly 50 ft. span, it is built of granite. The roadway 220 yds. long. It cost one million francs.

6 m. *Bersac* Stat. Hence rail to Poitiers. A tunnel, 865 yards long, pierces through the granite of the central chain of the Limousin, which divides the waters running into the Loire from those which flow towards the Garonne. Here is the summit-level of the line.

4 m. *St. Sulpice Laurière* Junct. Stat. (Buffet.) Here are workshops and engine-houses of the Rly. Company.

[Rly. N.E. 76 m. to Montluçon (Rte. 103), passing *Guéret* Stat. (*Inns:* St. François, excellent and moderate; H. Rousseau). This old town of 5800 Inhab. lies at the foot of the Maupuy (2000 ft., with dolmen on top). The old walls have 3 gates, and the seneschal's house consists of the remains of a strong 17th-cent. castle. There is an older castle of the 15th cent., with good Gothic façade. The *Ch.* dates from the 13th cent. There are interesting natural history and ceramic collections in the Hotel de Ville.]

[Rly. W. to Montmorillon (Rte. 65), Poitiers, Niort, and La Rochelle.]

5 m. *Ambazac* Stat. Village of 3231 Inhab. In the Romanesque *Ch.*, 11th cent., choir 1486, *see* the Byzantine *shrine* of *St. Étienne de Muret*, of copper gilt (12th cent.), adorned with enamels and gems, also his embroidered Dalmatic. The long cutting of Nouelle is 60 ft. deep. The fine Viaduct of *Le Palais*, over the valley, is 150 yds. long and 44 high.

11 m. **Limoges** Junct. Stat. (Buffet) Hôtel omnibus from Rly. (*Inns:* H. de la Paix; good, but prices somewhat high; H. Boule d'Or, table-d'hôte good), the capital of the ancient province of Limousin, at present chief town of the Dépt. de la Haute Vienne, is a commercial and manufacturing town, situated on the rt. bank of the Vienne. Pop. 55,022. It is distinguished by 3 fine ch. towers, alike in design. A terrible *conflagration* in 1864 destroyed 100 houses, which were not rebuilt in 1866.

The **Cathedral* of *St. Étienne* (M. H.) is a beautiful specimen of the Gothic of the North of France, resembling the Cathedrals of Clermont Ferrand and Narbonne, also derived from the N. The ch. is built of granite, and terminates in an apse, lofty and elegant within and without, begun in the 13th cent., the main part being of the 14th, and it was slowly continued down to the 16th, when the work came to a stand; and the building has since remained a fragment, consisting of the *Choir*, the N. transept, and two compartments of the nave, now closed up by a common partition wall, while at the spot to which it ought to have extended rises an isolated *belfry*, separated by a wide gap from the rest of the edifice. Under this tower is a Romanesque porch belonging to an older ch. Observe the elegant design, elaborate tracing in granite of the N. front and portal, with carved doors (1510), the rose-window. The interior is remarkable for its height and fine proportions. At the W. end is a *jubé*, removed from its place in the nave, much mutilated, its statues gone; but there are some bas-reliefs left on it, the Labours of Hercules for instance. It was erected in 1543, by Bishop Langeac, whose handsome tomb, in the style of the Renaissance, is close by. Two other monuments, that of Bishop Regnault de la Porte, of the 14th cent., and of Bernard Brun his nephew, some good 14th-cent. glass, and the fresco-paintings in the *crypt* of the 11th, deserve notice. There are some good specimens of Limoges enamels, part of a *reredos*, by Noël Laudin, in the sacristy. Outside, at the E. end of the cathedral, is a Roman milliarium, and near it the *well*, where the Martyr Saint Valeria's head was cut off, notwithstanding which she walked up the hill to hear mass!

St. Michel-aux-Lions is the most conspicuous object in the town, owing to its tall and graceful tower and spire, planted on the highest ground, surmounting the other buildings. This ch., erected 1364, is named from the rudely sculptured figures of lions which ornament its porch; the lightness and height of the 8 lofty pillars supporting the roof, and some good glass, are alone remarkable in the interior.

In *St. Pierre*—a more interesting ch. than St. Michael, having, like it, a square E. end and an octagonal tower (14th cent.) with 4 turrets at the sides and a plain spire—is a very fine stained glass window of the Coronation and Death of the Virgin, good in composition and arrangement of colours—perhaps the work of Pénicaud, an enameller of the 16th cent.

The *Episcopal Palace*, built 1687, is a handsome building of granite, with a fine *Garden* attached to it, whence a good view is gained.

Although Limoges was an important place in Roman times, chief seat of the Gaulic confederacy of the *Lemovices*, mentioned by Cæsar, it was known down to the 14th cent. by the name *Augustoritum*, there are no remains of Roman buildings except inscriptions, and other fragments, deposited in the *Museum*. The only trace of the amphi-

theatre, to which Molière alludes in *M. de Pourceaugnac*, act i. scene 6, is in the name of *Les Arènes* given to a burial-ground. Its site is nearly covered by the *Place d'Orsay*, on one side of which runs a terrace, from which there is a view over the valley of the Vienne. A Latin name, *"Aqua lenis,"* is supposed to be retained in the *Fontaine d'Aigoulène;* its water is conveyed through a Roman conduit.

The other open places are named Place de Tourny near the rly. stat., on which stands the statue of *Marshal Jourdan* and the Boulevard Montmailler, where is the *Post Office*.

The ancient fortifications of Limoges have been demolished, and converted into boulevards and public walks; only fragments remain as a relic of that terrible siege (1370) and capture by assault by the Black Prince, who, irritated at its revolting against him through the treachery of its bishop, swore by the soul of his father that he would have it back again. Too ill to ride, he directed the operations from a litter, and, having formed a breach by blowing up a tower, entered through it, and, denying quarter to its inhabitants, allowed 3000 men, women, and children, to be massacred—a blot on the fair fame of his heroic career.

Limoges is distinguished by having been the birthplace of the Chancelier d'Aguesseau, born 1688, Rue du Consulat. Vergniaud, the Republican orator, the leader of the Girondins, beheaded by the Convention, 1793; Marshal Jourdan, the conqueror at Fleurus (to whom a statue was erected 1860), Rue des Petits Carmes; Marshal Bugeaud, Rue de la Cruche d'Or; and Dupuytren the surgeon, were also born here.

Limoges likewise produced in the 16th and 17th cents. a series of artists, among whom are the names of Leonard Limousin, Raymond Vigier, the Pénicaud, Courtois, Laudin, and Nouaillier, eminent for their beautiful paintings in *enamel*, so highly esteemed as Emaux de Limoges. The art of enamelling (Champlevé) appears to have flourished at Limoges from the 12th cent. It is said to have been invented by the barbarian Gauls, but they may have derived it from Greeks of Marseilles or Constantinople, and it may have been carried on by a Venetian colony, established here in the 10th cent., who have left traces behind them in the "Rue des Venetiens" and Porte de Venise, now removed.

There are some remarkable specimens of these enamels in the *Musée* in the Ancien Palais de Justice, close to the ch. of St. Michel, and in the sacristy of the cathedral. The Museum also contains divers Roman fragments found near Limoges.

Specimens of *ancient houses* may be found in the Rues de Courtine, du Temple; at corner of Rue Ferrerie, the *H. des Templiers* and *Maison Beauvreux;* in Rue des Couches, la *Maison Nivet* (Renaissance).

The *Manufacture* at present most flourishing here is that of *porcelain*, due to the discovery at St. Yrieix (Rte. 71), in this neighbourhood, of the earths *Kaolin* and *Petunze*. Sèvres is supplied hence with these substances, and nearly 2000 persons are employed in and about Limoges in making china. There are also some cotton and woollen-cloth mills.

The Limousin horses are a celebrated breed, in much request for the French cavalry; they are reared in the meadow-lands along the Vienne.

Excursions.

a. 22 m. S.W. of Limoges, on the high road to Périgueux, is *Chalus*, at the siege of which Richard Cœur-de-Lion met his death-wound (Rte. 71).

b. At *St. Junien*, 18 m. W. of Limoges on the rly. to Angoulême, is a very curious *Ch.* See Rte. 63.

c. 7 m. S. from Limoges, about an hour's drive through le Vigen, where is a little inn, where the carriage can be left, is the ruined *Castle of Chalusset*, residence of the Viscomtes de Limoges in the 13th cent.; a good example of the art of fortification in the middle ages, situated on an isolated rock at the junction of two streams. It is reached on foot by crossing the Pont Suspendu at le Vigenette; the tall square *Donjon* has a Norman look.

d. A little farther is the *Abbaye de Solignac*, one of the oldest Benedictine monasteries in Gaul, founded by St. Eloi, on the site of a villa given to him by Dagobert. The existing modern edifice is now a china manufactory; the **Church*, however, is ancient, showing the Romano-Byzantine style of the 12th cent., the nave being dome-vaulted; apsidal E. end. It is much dilapidated, but is highly interesting to the architect.

Railways. Limoges to Périgueux and Bordeaux (Rte. 71) to Angoulême by St. Junien and La Rochefoucauld (see Rte. 64).

ROUTE 71.

LIMOGES TO BORDEAUX, BY PÉRIGUEUX —RAIL.

Limoges.	Kil.	Miles.
Périgueux	99	61
Coutras	175	108
Bordeaux	253	157

Time, 6 to 7 hrs.; *trains*, 2 daily.

Limoges is described in Rte. 70.

The railway between Limoges and Périgueux has been made under great difficulties, through a hilly country.

18 m. *Lafarge* Stat. [Branch Rly. S.E. to Brive, by St. Yrieix (see Rte. 71A).]

6 m. *Bussière Galand* Stat.

The valley of the Vezère has obtained a geological celebrity for its numerous natural caverns, containing bones of extinct quadrupeds, mixed with works of human art.

[7 m. W. (omnibus twice daily, 1 fr. 15 c.) is *Chalus*, a town of 2109 Inhab., only remarkable now for its cattle market. Beneath its ruined walls Richard Cœur de Lion received his death-wound from the arrow of a youth named Bertrand de Gourdon. The tamer of the infidel, and hero of the Crusades, thus ended (1199) a chivalrous life of nearly constant warfare, before the petty fortress of a vassal, Aymar, Viscount of Limoges, which he had besieged in consequence of a quarrel about the division of a treasure found in the viscount's domain, of which Richard claimed the whole, or a larger share than had been conceded to him. The place was soon taken, and the garrison of only 38 men were hung by the king's order, except the bold archer who had sped the shaft so fatal to him. The youth avowed, when brought before the dying monarch, that revenge for the death of his father and two brothers, slain by Richard, had prompted him to free the country of its oppressor. His life, though magnanimously spared by Richard, was taken after his death; and he is said to have been flayed alive by the leader of Richard's Brabançon soldiers. The most conspicuous bit of the defences yet remaining is a circular tower, entered by a doorway high up in the wall, and no longer accessible without a ladder. Around it are grouped some shattered fragments of buildings, including a portion of a chapel. A little conical stone, rising out of the meadows, in the valley of the Tardoire river, is pointed out as the spot where Richard had placed himself to reconnoitre the fort, when the arrow struck him in the l. shoulder. The stone is called *Maumont*.]

Returning to the line of rly.—

6 m. *La Coquille* Stat., deep cuttings, near the summit-level.

9 m. *Thiviers* Stat. (*Inn:* H. Lambert, fair), a cheerful town, 2700 Inhab. It has a *Church* (12th and 13th cents.) and castle and some old houses. *Tunnels.*

17 m. *Château-l'Evêque* Stat. On the top of the hill is seen the *Château* of the 14th cent., the ancient summer residence of the bishops of Périgueux.

[9 m. W. is *Brantôme* (*Inn:* Villotte's Grand Cerf), ancient town of 2500 Inhab., on an island in the Dronne; retaining 3 old towers, its *Abbey Ch.*, a fine edifice partly Romanesque, with detached tower (11th cent.), built on a caverned rock, fragments of cloisters, and chapel. The scandalous chronicler of this name in the 15th

cent. was descended from a family who held this town.]

6 m. **Périgueux** Junct. Stat. (Buffet) (*Inns:* H. de France, in the Place du Triangle, good; H. du Périgord, good, but drains offensive; H. de l'Univers, near the Stat., has changed hands, and is now good, clean, and moderate; H. des Messageries), the chief town of the Dépt. de la Dordogne, active and industrious, interesting to strangers, contains 21,864 Inhab., and is situated on the rt. bank of the river l'Isle, which is canalised. The old town, composed of streets narrow, tortuous, and dirty within, is fringed by green boulevards and spacious modern houses, and has a cheerful **Quai* on the side of the river, where are some picturesque old houses and part of the old walls. There are 3 bridges over the Isle.

"The **Cathedral of St. Front* (M. H.), originally an abbey ch., begun 984 and consecrated 1047, is a very remarkable ch., the type of the ecclesiastical architecture of the neighbouring provinces of France, and undoubtedly Byzantine both in its character and origin. It is a cavern-like building, plain and massive, in the form of a Greek cross, consisting of 5 domed compartments, the choir, nave, transepts, and crossing, each being covered by a separate stone cupola or dome, 30 ft. in diameter, rising 108 ft. above the pavement. It is very worthy of note that St. Front bears a striking resemblance to St. Mark's at Venice in plan and dimensions, with which it is nearly contemporary in age. Like St. Mark's, it has 5 cupolas; but the arches supporting the domes, instead of being circular, are pointed; and this is said to be the earliest instance of the use of the pointed arch in France. The E. apse is of much later date (c. 1347). At the W. end are remains of a Latin ch. of the 6th or 7th cent., consisting of a narthex or vestibule and 2 bays of the nave and aisles of the primitive ch., on which last the present tower, 197 ft. high, was raised early in the 11th cent., but so insecurely that the lower openings soon required to be built up. The cupola and pillars of various sizes taken from Roman buildings are part of the original work." —*D. T.* St. Front has been undergoing since 1854 very extensive repairs. Unfortunately the French system of giving an entirely new surface to every part, whether rebuilt or not, is here carried to its extreme, and the whole of this venerable building, inside and out, wears a modern dress, so that much that made the building curious and valuable, as the earliest mediæval structure in France on a large scale, is lost. There is a huge and ugly wood-carving of the Ascension of the Virgin in the interior, the work of a Jesuit, 17th cent.

St. Étienne, or *Église de la Cité* (M. H.) (cathedral down to 1669), is also a domical ch., of which 2 bays only remain; the W. bay, the only remains of the nave, rude, and simple, is nearly of the same age as St. Front; the E. bay, destroyed with the remainder of the nave by the Huguenots, 1577, was very carefully rebuilt 1615. See a curious tablet for the finding of Easter, date 1163. In a chapel a bas-relief in wood, a Pietà, also by the Jesuit Laville. *See* monuments of Bp. J. d'Asside, 1169, and Pierre Meinet, 1182.

The *Préfecture*, on a height above the river, is a handsome modern building. From it extends the public Promenade.

In the Place du Triangle, the busiest part of the town, is a statue of *Marshal Bugeaud*, a celebrity of the province, by *Dumon*; in the neighbouring Place de Michel de Montaigne is that of the celebrated Essayist, and on the Allées de Tourny that of Fénélon, both natives of Périgord.

The first ancient name of this city was Vesuna, retained in the *Tour de Vésone* (M. H.), a very remarkable circular tower of Roman construction, 100 ft. high, its walls 6 ft. thick, hooped with brick bands at intervals, without doors. It is supposed to have been a tomb, and is situated in the scattered suburb called La Cité, close to the rly. stat. Here also are remains of a *Roman amphi-*

theatre (very picturesque) and of an *arch*. Vesuna, the capital of the Petrocorii—whence Périgueux—is mentioned by Cæsar. The *Château de la Barrière*, now a ruin (M. H.), is a 16th-cent. building raised on Roman foundations, with Roman materials, friezes, columns, &c., singularly incorporated in its masonry.

The *Museum of Antiquities*, in a fragment of an old chapel, contains interesting local relics, &c., and deserves a visit.

The streets of Périgueux possess some picturesque houses of the 16th century: one at the corner of Rue Aiguillerie bearing the date 1518; and another at the end of the Rue de la Sagesse, ornamented with arabesques and carvings, merit notice. There are some buildings and vaults which are as old as the 12th and 13th cents., in Rue de Limogeanne.

The celebrated *pâtés de Périgueux*, well known to gourmands, are made of partridges and truffles, and form an article of considerable export.

Railways to Agen and Toulouse (Rte. 72A); to Brive and Capdenac and Toulouse (Rte. 72), with branches to Rodez, Aurillac, Clermont, Le Puy, &c. (Rte. 92).

The rly. from Périgueux to Coutras follows the valley of the Isle.

11 m. *St. Astier* Stat. A domed *Ch.* here (1013).

The rly. from Paris, by Tours, Poitiers, and Angoulême, to Bordeaux, is joined near

36 m. *Coutras* Junct. Stat. (See Rte. 64.) Rly. through Libourne (Rte. 64) and Bordeaux (Rte. 73).

ROUTE 71A.

LIMOGES TO BRIVE, BY ST. YRIEIX—RAIL.

Distance, 57 m.; *time*, 3 to 4 hrs.; *trains*, 5 daily.

Limoges is described in Rte. 70.

This line is now completed, and turning out of the Rly. to Périgueux (Rte. 71), at

18 m. *Lafarge* Junct. Stat., it proceeds S.E. to

13 m. *St. Yrieix* Stat. (*Inn:* H. Belin), a town of 7613 Inhab., which carries on a considerable trade in porcelain-earth, first discovered here 1765. Close to the town are extensive quarries of its materials in the granitic rocks. These consist of *kaolin*, the result of decomposition of the felspar, from which it is separated by washing—this is the porcelain-clay, properly speaking—and of *Petunze*, or white unaltered felspar, used for producing the glazing, and for the manufacture, combined with the kaolin, of the more translucid varieties of china. There is an early Gothic *Church* built in 27 months, 1181-83, except the chevet, which is later. St. Yrieix is the French for St. Aredius, who founded a monastery here in the 6th cent.

15 m. S.E. from St. Yrieix is *Uzerche*, a picturesque little town, on a conical hill, converted into a peninsula by the bend which the Vezère makes round it. It has a curious Romanesque *Ch.* of the 12th cent. on the crest of the hill, surrounded at the E. end by 5 apsidal chapels, partly destroyed. Under it is a *crypt*, containing the tomb of St. Coronat, in a niche, closed in front by a wooden railing. Insane persons were shut up within it for a night, in the belief that they would thereby recover their reason!

18 m. *Pompadour* Stat. The 15th-cent. *Château* was anciently the residence of a noble family, several of whom were governors of the province of Limousin, whose name was never sullied, until, after the extinction of their line (1722), when its title was bestowed upon the favourite of Louis XV., the daughter of the butcher Poisson.

ROUTE 72.

PÉRIGUEUX TO TOULOUSE, BY BRIVE, [TULLE], CAPDENAC, AND TESSONNIÈRES—RAIL.

	Kil.	Miles.
Périgueux to La Bachellerie .	41	25
Brive	72	45
Capdenac	168	104
Villefranche de Rouergue .	198	122
Lexos	233	145
Tessonières	263	164
Rabastens.	284	177
Toulouse	321	200

There are 3 routes leading from Périgueux to Toulouse, the most direct being that by Agen and Montauban, 169 m. (Rte. 72A); that by Capdenac and Montauban, 217 m.; and that by Capdenac and Tessonnières 200 m.

As far as Brive our route traverses an uninteresting region by

7 m. *Niversac* Junct. Stat. [*Rly.* direct S. to Agen (Rte. 72A.)]

19 m. *La Bachellerie* Stat. [10 m. N. is the *Château d'Hautefort* (M. H.), which was besieged by Henry II. of England, on account of the protection afforded by its owner, Bertrand de Born, to Queen Eleanor and the King's rebellious sons.

The actual building dates from 1661, though resting on foundations of the 9th cent. It escaped destruction during the revolution of 1789 by being converted into a state prison. There is a small but fairly good *Inn* in the village, of 2000 Inhab., at the foot of the castle.]

16 m. *Brive* Junct. Stat. (Buffet) (*Inn:* H. de Bordeaux, clean, comfortable, and a good cook, who makes capital pâtés). "Brives la Gaillarde" is in a fine situation in the valley of the Corrèze; but its favourable appearance at a distance is not realised in its interior, which contains nothing remarkable but the *Ch. of St. Martin* (M. H.), a good building of the 12th and 13th cents., and an ancient *Gothic house* attributed to the English: it is said to have been the residence of the governor. Brive was the birthplace of Card. Dubois, son of an apothecary, who became tutor and afterwards minister to the Regent Duke of Orleans; and of Marshal Brune, assassinated at Avignon by the Royalists in 1815. There is a statue of him here. Pop. 10,765.

[Branch Rly. N.E., 16 m. to *Tulle* Stat. (*Inn:* H. de Lyon), a town of 13,681 Inhab., singularly placed in the fork of a deep narrow valley of the Corrèze, a bubbling stream, which runs through it, bordered with houses, many of them ancient and picturesque. The *Cathedral* (M. H.) had a slice cut from it, in Revolutionary times, to make way for a public walk. The nave only remains, of granite, in a severe and early Gothic style.

The town has an important manufactory of small-arms.

Rly. in progress, in mean time

Diligence from *Tulle* to Clermont by Ussel, and by *Bourylastie* to Mont Dore les Bains, and to Aurillac, over a very wild region.]

[Branch Rly. N.W. from Brive to La Farge for Limoges, see Rte. 71A.]

Leaving Brive, the rly. traverses a hilly country, passing within a short distance of the *Castle de Noailles,* now in ruins, cradle of the noble family who derive their ducal title from it.

10 m. *Turenne* Stat. The old feudal *Castle of Turenne* (M. H.), on the Tourmente, a tributary of the Dordogne, gave a name to another great family, illustrious by deeds as well as by descent: the Ducs de Bouillon obtained the domain and viscounty of Turenne by alliance. Within its walls the wife

of the Great Condé, a fugitive with her son from the persecution of Mazarin, was received amidst a crowd of enthusiastic partisans of the Fronde, in 1650, and sumptuously entertained for 8 days; during which, taking counsel with the Ducs de Bouillon and de La Rochefoucauld, she planned the memorable rising in the South, known as the civil war of La Guienne. She here summoned her retainers to rally round her for the rescue of her husband from prison. At the order of the Duc de Bouillon the tocsin was sounded in the 400 villages of his feudal possessions here, and the peasants at once flew to arms and flocked round his standard.

8 m. *St. Denis-Port Martel* Stat.

About a mile N.E. of St. Denis is a hill called *Puy d'Issolu*, the site, according to Napoleon III., in his 'Vie de César,' of *Uxellodunum*, the siege of which (B.C. 51) is narrated in the Commentaries, and admirably illustrated by the author. Several ancient remains may be traced, especially of a gateway, and the fountain which Cæsar cut off from the town to compel it to surrender. Some topographers have placed Uxellodunum, with less reason, at Figéac.

11 m. *Rocamadour* Stat. A Pilgrimage *Church* (M. H.), of 12th cent., in several storeys.

26 m. *Figéac* Junct. Stat. (*Rly.* N.E. to Aurillac, see Rte. 114). Three *tunnels*, and a bridge of three arches over the Lot.

4 m. *Capdenac* Junct. Stat. (Buffet), a town of 1600 Inhab., on a height on the rt. bank of the Lot. The stat. on the l. bank, in Dépt. Aveyron. There are remains of mediæval fortifications, and of the mansion to which Sully retired after the death of Henri IV.

Branch *Rlys.* S.E. to the coal-mines of Decazeville and Rodez (Rte. 92), to be continued to the shores of the Mediterranean, across the mountains of Lozère.

Leaving Capdenac, the line traverses a high uninteresting country until it strikes the valley of the Aveyron.

19 m. *Villefranche de Rouergue* Stat., described in Rte. 114. The rly. here crosses the Aveyron, which it follows to Montauban, by

6 m. *Monteils* Stat. Gorge of Aveyron.

4 m. *Najac* Stat. Ruined *Castle.*

16 m. *La Guepie*, where the Aveyron is joined by the *Vau*, the united streams changing their direction from S. to W.

6 m. *Lexos* Junct. Stat. (Buffet) (*Inn:* H. de Varen). [Branch *Rly.* S.W., 36 m. to *Montauban* in Rte. 73, passing

8 m. *St. Antonin* Stat., on the rt. bank of the Aveyron. 5000 Inhab. *H. de Ville* of 12th cent., and curious houses of 13th, 14th and 15th cents.

12 m. *Bruniquel* Stat. Near here, in a very picturesque valley, are caverns in the limestone rock, containing bones of animals—reindeer, bouquetin, chamois—which no longer exist in the country, with human remains and works of man; they have been explored by Professor Owen, and a large collection of their contents placed in the British Museum.

8 m. *Nègrepelisse* Stat., also on the Aveyron.]

7 m. *Vindrac* Stat., on the Cérou, where an *omnibus* meets all the trains for (4 m.) *Cordes*, a town of 2719 Inhab., very interesting to the student of mediæval domestic architecture, on account of the remains of the fortifications and the 13th-cent. houses, the old market, and the mill of Latour.

16 m. *Tessonnières* Junct. Stat. (Buffet). [*Rly.* to *Castelnaudary*, by *Albi* and *Castres*, see Rte. 72 B.]

3 m. *Gaillac* Stat., a town of 7900 Inhab., on the Tarn, with *Ch.* of St. Michael (M. H.), of the 13th cent.

10 m. *Rabastens* Stat. The interior of the *Ch.* of N. D. du Bourg (M. H.), is covered with frescoes of the 14th cent., judiciously restored.

5 m. *St. Sulpice* Stat. [7 m. distant is *Castelnau-de-Montmirail*, of 2600 Inhab., with ruins of a 13th-cent. *Castle.*]

18 m. **Toulouse** Junct. Stat. (Rte. 72A).

ROUTE 72A.

PÉRIGUEUX TO TOULOUSE, BY AGEN AND MONTAUBAN—RAIL.

	Kil.	Miles.
Périgueux to Niversac .	11	7
Le Bugue	48	30
Belvès	67	42
Trentels	115	71
Agen	152	94
Moissac	192	119
Montauban	222	138
Toulouse	273	169

Time, 9 hrs.; *trains*, 2 daily.

Périgueux is described in Rte. 71.

This is the shortest Rte. The Rly. runs E. as far as

7 m. *Niversac* Junct. Stat. [Rly. E. to Brive (Rte. 72).]

18 m. *Les Eyzies* Stat. (*Inn:* H. Laganne; intelligent host acquainted with the antiquities and caves of the neighbourhood). Its *Ch.*, of 11th and 12th cent., lies close to the rly., and deserves examination. The village, nearly 1 m. rt. of Stat., lies in a picturesque valley close to the confluence of the Beune with the Vezère. The high cliffs on the rt. bank are pierced with caverns, the largest of which is the *Grotte de Font de gomme*. In these have been discovered bones of animals no longer inhabiting the country, and traces of an early race of men, stone implements, and rudely carved horns of reindeer.

These caverns have been explored, and their contents described, by Mr. M. Christy, an Englishman, and M. Lartet. At some distance from Les Eyzies lies the *Cave of Mirémont*, called also *La Grotte de Granville*, stretching nearly 1 m. in a direct line, and measuring with its ramifications nearly 2½ m. No one should enter without the guide, who dwells on the hill above the entrance.

The Vezère is crossed by the rly. on a skew-bridge of 6 arches. The Castle of Campagne (restored) is passed before reaching

4 m. *Le Bugue* Stat. (*Inn:* H. de France). The town, of 3008 Inhab., is more than a mile from the Stat. on the Vezère, crossed by a bridge of 4 arches. The *truffles* about here are the best in Perigord.

The rly. crosses the Vezère, which a little lower down falls into the Dordogne.

4 m. *Le Buisson* Stat.; the rly. here crosses the Dordogne.

[Public conveyances to 4 m. W. *Cadouin*, remarkable for its *Ch.* (1154), a Romanesque edifice, vaulted at the crossing, ending in an apse retaining frescoes of the 15th cent. It was raised to contain the *Saint Suaire*, the holy napkin, which became an object of pilgrimage and source of great wealth. The *Cloisters* (M. H.), chiefly of 15th and 16th cents., must have been of great beauty, though much mutilated. The vaulting is very perfect, and the sculptures of the key-stones elaborate.]

8 m. *Belvès* Stat. (*Inn:* H. de France), a pretty town, with several towers on hill-tops around. 5 viaducts are crossed before reaching

7 m. *Le Got* Stat.

[8 m. W. from here is the town of *Montpazier* (*Inn:* H. de France), where a carriage may be hired, crossing the *Drot* by ferry if on foot, if in carriage by bridge at La Rouquelle, to visit the *Castle of Biron*, 4 m. off, the grand and extensive fortress of the family of Gontaut Biron, one of the largest and most perfect in Guienne, founded in the 11th cent., but chiefly built in the 17th. In the lower court is the chapel in 2 storeys; the upper

one, set apart for the denizens of the castle, has remains of some sepulchral monuments of the Birons, the lower for the inhabitants of the parish.]

4 m. *Villefranche de Belvès* Stat. (*Inn:* H. Cordon Bleu).

14 m. *Monsempron Libos* Junct. Stat. (Buffet), on the river Lot. [Branch Rly. E. 32 m. to

Cahors Stat. (*Inns:* H. des Ambassadeurs, not very clean, but excellent cook; H. Trois Rois; H. de l'Europe, good). This *chef-lieu* of the Dépt. du Lot (Pop. 14,593) is situated on the top and round the base of an escarped rock, on a wide sweeping bend of the river Lot. One of the striking features is a *Bridge* over the Lot, built in the 14th and 15th cents., surmounted by 3 gate-towers, to defend the approach to the town. It is a very ancient town of narrow streets, full of antique edifices, to which a new quarter has been added. The name comes from its ancient appellation, *Divona Cadurcorum*, and there still exist the remains of a Roman amphitheatre, and of a conduit, which conveyed water to it from the village St. Matrin de Vern, through La Roque, where are vestiges of the arches of an aqueduct.

The **Cathedral* (M. H.) consists of a large nave, surmounted by two hemispherical cupolas, in the style of St. Front at Périgueux, immediately after which it was built, quite at the end of the 11th or beginning of the 12th cent., and has since undergone many alterations. The E. end is vaulted with a semidome. The sculpture of the N. door, early in the 12th cent., is very admirable. The Bishop's Palace is now the Préfecture. The bishop originally bore the title of count, and enjoyed the privilege of wearing a sword and gauntlets, which he deposited on the altar when he said mass. When he took possession of his diocese, he was received at the gate of the town by his vassal, le Vicomte de Sessac, bareheaded, without cloak, with one leg bare, and the foot in a slipper, and was conducted by the count in that guise to his palace, and waited on by him there at table. This curious tenure had fallen into disuse before the Revolution.

The surprise and capture of Cahors in 1580 was one of the most brilliant exploits of Henri IV. (when King of Navarre). He reached the town by a forced march of 30 m. under a burning sun, and, posting his men in ambuscade among the walnut-trees, awaited the nightfall; when, silently approaching the gate, he blew it up with a petard, and entered himself, followed by 700 men, and leaving 700 outside to check the arrival of reinforcements to the garrison. The bursting of the gate had alarmed the town, which was strongly guarded, and a shower of stones and tiles from every housetop assailed the Navarrese troops and their general. The combat was carried on throughout the night, and yet, when dawn appeared, the assailants had gained but a very small footing. Henri was strongly advised to retire, especially when intelligence was brought of the arrival of succour to the town; but the king, setting his back against a shop, persisted in fighting on, exclaiming, "Ma retraite hors de cette ville sera celle de mon âme hors de mon corps." The reinforcements were driven back, but Henri still had to struggle step by step, to lay siege to every street, and almost to every house. It was not until the fifth night that Cahors submitted. Henri's soldiers, irritated at the resistance made by the garrison, put a great many to the sword.

On the open promenade du Fossé, in front of the college, is placed a statue of Fénélon, who was a student here. Cahors was the birthplace of Pope Jean XXII., whose name was Jacques d'Euze; his *Castle* is pointed out near the entrance to the town, on the side of Paris; also of Clement Marot, the poet, author of sonnets, ballads, &c. (1495), and page to Marguerite, sister of Francis I. It is also the native town of Gambetta.

The country around produces a good deal of very fair *wine*, and *truffles* in abundance.]

The Rly. from Libos continues to

10 m. *Port de Penne* Junct. Stat., on the Lot, which, being navigable from here downwards, has a good deal of trade from its little port. Port de P. is the suburb of the town of *Penne* (*Inn*, Rondalou), 3000 Inhab., 1 m. distant. Its *Castle* was founded by Richard Cœur de Lion.

[Branch Rly. to 7 m. *Villeneuve-sur-Lot* Stat. (*Inn:* H. de France, not over clean, but civil people.) Pop. 13,114. About 1 m. S. are the ruins of the *Château de Pujols* (13th cent.), fine view.]

17 m. *Agen* Junct. Stat. (See Rte. 73.)

The route from Agen to Montauban and Toulouse, forming a section of that from Bordeaux to Toulouse, is described in Rte. 73.

Toulouse Junct. Stat. (Buffet). Omnibus from Rly. (*Inns:* H. Sacaron, 15 Allées Lafayette, nearest to the Rly. Stat.; H. de l'Europe, Place Lafayette, no table-h'hôte, brick floors to bedrooms; H. Tivollier, Rue de l'Alsace-Lorraine; H. Souville, comfortable; H. des Etats Unis; H. du Midi, all three in the Place du Capitole. *2nd Class:* H. de Paris, cheap, but commercial.)

Toulouse, the ancient capital of Languedoc, and now of the Dépt. of la Haute Garonne, stands in the midst of the great plain of Gascony and Languedoc, beginning at the very foot of the Pyrenees, and stretching from them nearly 100 m. N. The town is irregularly built on both sides of the Garonne, just above the point where the Canal du Midi, connecting the Atlantic with the Mediterranean, falls into it, after winding round the N. and E. sides of the town, its old streets winding, the more modern wide, well paved, and lined with good shops, furnished with trottoirs and a good supply of water. On the l. bank is the suburb of *St. Cyprien*, which was so seriously damaged by the disastrous floods of 1875. It contains 2 extensive *Hospitals*, and is connected with the city by 3 bridges.

A grand broad avenue, lined with trees, leads from the rly. station to the circular Place Lafayette, which a straight street of shops connects with the Place du Capitole. There is not much architectural beauty in its public edifices, the houses and churches being built of brick; but it ranks as the seventh city in France, from the number of its inhabitants (126,936), and the extensive trade of a provincial capital which it enjoys. It is interesting from its historical souvenirs, as the capital of the kingdom of the Visigoths from A.D. 413 to 507, when it was destroyed by Clovis on the battle-field of Vouillé near Poitiers; as the place where the art of the Troubadours was encouraged at the gay court of its counts; as the centre of the papal crusade against the Albigenses, headed by an English leader, and as the seat of an ancient Parliament.

The *Place du Capitole* (once Place Royale), a handsome square of regular modern buildings (one of which is a sumptuous *café*), is the chief market-place, and the point from which radiate 9 main thoroughfares. It is named from *le Capitole*, or Hôtel de Ville, so called either from the tradition that in the time of the Romans the Capitol of the Tolosates may have stood here, or from the meetings of the civic chapter (capitolium), whose members were called Capitouls, on this spot. The Toulousans are very proud of this building, but the interior is modern and scarcely worth a visit. It presents externally a front, finished 1769, with eight columns of red Pyrenean marble, and includes, besides the municipal offices and archives, the *Theatre* in the l. wing. The principal apartment, running along nearly the whole length of the first floor, is the *Salle des Illustres*, or hall of the worthies of Toulouse, so called from 38 terra-cotta busts of men of note, born in and near the city, or connected with it, each with a pompous Latin inscription below it, filling as many gilt niches in the walls. In real truth, a great many—as Riquet, projector and engineer of the Canal du Midi, Pope Benedict XII., &c.—have no connection of birth with the town; and many more, though really citizens,



REFERENCE TO THE NUMBERS.

1. Arsenal.
2. Bibliothèque.
3. Bourse.
4. Capitole.
5. Ecole d'Artillerie.
6. Cathedral.
7. Église de la Dalbade.
8. „ de la Daurade.
9. „ St. Sernin.
10. Hôpital Militaire.
11. Hôtel Dieu, St. Jacques.
12. Jardin des Plantes.
13. Lycée (Hôtel Bernuy).
14. Manutention des Vivres.
15. Musée.
16. Palais de Justice.
17. Préfecture.
18. Théâtre du Capitole.
19. Place du Capitole.
20. „ Lafayette.
21. Église du Taur.
22. Les Jacobins.
23. Post-office.
24. Fonderie de Canons.
25. Caserne St. Charles.

have no claim to renown beyond its walls. Among those of most general celebrity may be mentioned Raymond de St. Gilles, Count of Toulouse, one of the leaders of the first crusade; Cujas, the great writer on law ("*cujus* merum nomen plus laudis amplectitur quam quælibet oratio potest"), and Fermat, the celebrated mathematician, inventor of the integral calculus, b. 1608.

In this hall are held every year the meetings of the *Société des Jeux Floraux*, deriving its origin from the ancient troubadours, but founded, it is said, by one Clémence Isaure, a Toulousan lady, who revived the science of the "Gai Scavoir" in the 14th century (1333). Her very existence, however, is not a little doubtful, as there is no mention of her in the archives of the town, though her statue is preserved in the Capitole. In spite of these doubts, the society has adopted her as its patroness and founder, and every year on the 3rd of May, after making a pilgrimage to the church of La Daurade in which her tomb once stood, it distributes, to various competitors, prizes consisting of golden and silver flowers, the violet, amaranthus, eglantine, souci, and lis, for the best original compositions in verse, and essays in prose, for which the directors give the subject. The society maintains about equal importance, and the prize compositions have nearly the same literary value, as those of the bardic meetings held in Wales. It claims for itself to be the oldest literary institution in Europe, dating from 1383. Indeed, it appears that in that year a number of Troubadours, or Mainteneurs du Gai Scavoir, citizens of Toulouse, met in the garden of an Augustinian convent near the town to distribute prizes to the composers of the best verses.

In the same room with the statue of Clémence Isaure is preserved *the axe* with which Henri Duc de Montmorency, the victim of Richelieu, and one of the last of the great vassals of the crown of France, was decapitated. It is a sort of huge carving-knife. The execution took place 1632, in the first court of the Capitole, at the foot of the statue of Henri IV., in whose reign that part of the building was erected. The old courts at the back of the building are better worth a visit. In the 2nd on the rt., two barred windows mark the dungeon in which the duke was confined, and belong to the oldest portion of the edifice.

The antiquity of the municipal privileges of Toulouse, and of the meetings of the magistrates, or *Capitouls*, who were elected by the people themselves, and who were recognised by Raymond V. as far back as 1152, deserves notice. These rights, of 5 centuries' duration, were infringed, in spite of the remonstrances of the citizens, by Louis XIV., who caused the capitouls to be appointed by royal ordonnance.

The *Place du Capitole* is a good starting-point from which to visit the chief curiosities of the town. Leaving it by the Rue du Taur, we pass close to

The *Church of the Taur*, so named from the wild bull to whose horns the martyr St. Saturnin was bound by his heathen persecutors. The struggles of the infuriated animal having freed it from the cords on this spot, a ch. was in consequence erected. That at present existing is of the end of the 14th cent., without aisles; a vaulted hall, having at the E. end twin apses united by a straight wall. The W. end is a flat wall pierced with openings for bells, flanked on either side by turrets, a common arrangement in this part of Languedoc. The numerous pictures and inscriptions on the walls, and the doorway are worth notice.

At the end of the Rue du Taur may be descried the spire of

**L'Eglise St. Sernin* (Saturnin), the largest, oldest, and most perfect ecclesiastical edifice here, a building of brick and stone in the Romanesque style, so far finished as to have been consecrated 1090 by Pope Urban II., but for the most part in the 12th cent. It has been completely restored under the superintendence of M. Viollet-le-Duc. It is conspicuous for its lofty octagonal *Tower* (13th cent.), formed by 5 tiers of arches, each less than that below it. The

lower 3 with circular arches, but straight-sided arches in the 2 upper arcades, and terminating with a short spire. Of its 2 *porches*, that on the S. side of the nave is distinguished by an early Byzantine bas-relief over the door, and by the capitals of its columns representing the murder of the Innocents, expulsion of Adam, &c.; the other, a double portal leading into the S. transept, bears carved capitals of the 7 deadly sins. In it are several tombs of early counts of Toulouse. The interior is remarkable for its very long stately *Nave* of 11 bays, flanked by double aisles, rebuilt in the 15th cent., preserving the original Romanesque style and plan. The effect is very noble, from its fine proportions and grand, simple style. Even more pleasing is the E. end, from having more ornament. Notice the fine effect of the aisles and triforium in the transept. The E. end is semicircular; close-set columns support the vault above the high altar, painted with the colossal figure of Christ and the symbols of the 4 Evangelists. From the aisle behind it project 5 apsidal chapels, decorated with carvings of saints and legends in wood. Here also is a model of the church as it stood before the Revolution, showing that it formed an isolated fortress, apart from the town, walled in by towers and battlements. Some Byzantine bas-reliefs in white marble, of the 11th cent., fragments of an older building, are let into the wall of the aisle behind the choir; they represent our Saviour, angels, and saints. The transepts have aisles running all round and 4 apsidal chapels towards the E. The *Crypt* under the choir, modernised in the 14th cent., was the place of deposit of relics in great number and esteemed of immense value. Before the Revolution of 1789 this church indeed boasted of possessing the bodies of no less than 7 of the Apostles; that of St. James was, it is true, a duplicate, another being preserved at Compostella in Spain! This motto is blazoned over the entry—"*Non est in toto sanctior orbe locus.*" The ancient shrines in metal-work and the carved presses (whatever the authenticity of the relics they contain may be) at least deserve attention. Among them is the coffin of St. Thomas Aquinas. The wooden stalls of the choir are well carved in the style of the 16th cent. The exterior of the E. end, with its domed roof in 2 stages, is admirable. At the W. 2 towers were designed, but only the lower parts appear. The Pilgrimage Ch. of St. Iago di Compostella in Spain was copied from this a few years later.

The *Ch. of the Cordeliers*, in the street leading from the Place du Capitole to the bridge, a brick building of great loftiness, erected in the 13th cent., is now turned into a magasin de fourrage, and filled with hay. The *Ch.* of the *Jacobins*, on the opposite side of the same street, surmounted by a conspicuous brick tower, rising in arches having straight-angled heads, is of vast size, and of brick, like the other churches. It had become a barrack, divided by floors, the lower serving as a stable; but it is now restored as the *Chapel* of the *Lycée*. It is one of the finest pieces of brickwork in France. It consists of a long and lofty nave, of 2 parallel aisles, end of 13th cent.; the side and apsidal chapels being of 14th and 15th. The Refectory, Salle Capitulaire, and cloisters remain. Within some of the buildings are remains of excellent paintings of 13th and 14th cents. The picturesque *Tour des Augustins* is a fine example of the brickwork of the 15th cent.

From the Place Lafayette, the Rue St. Antoine, the Place St. Georges, near which is the *Musée*, and the Rue Bourbon, nearly in a line, though not a straight one, lead to the **Cathedral*, or *Église St. Étienne* (M. H.), remarkable for the irregularity and want of concord in all its parts. The *Nave*, with a vault of the great span of 62 ft., was built by Raymond VI., Comte de Toulouse, at the end of the 13th cent., at a time when he was favouring the heretical Albigeois, and was excommunicated in consequence by the Pope. Raymond was besieged within the walls of Toulouse by Simon de Montfort, Earl of

Leicester, appointed by Innocent III. head of the crusade against these heretics. He met his death in one of the suburbs of the town, from a stone discharged by a mangonel, whilst he was endeavouring to repel a sally of the citizens, in the 9th month of the fruitless siege, on St. John Baptist's day, 1218. Count Raymond's construction is the oldest part of the church, and was doubtless intended to be removed by those who raised the very elegant Flamboyant *Choir*. The choir, of the 15th cent., is altogether Northern in style, but, being in the South, its triforium is not glazed. It was not roofed in until 1502, by the Cardinal d'Orléans, son of the bastard Dunois, who built also the bell-tower and the isolated column called *Pilier d'Orléans*, in front on entering the nave. There is some good painted glass in the choir. Riquet, the originator of the Canal du Midi, is buried in the Cathedral. The tower is singular from its form.

Leaving the Place du Capitole, passing down the Rue *St. Rome* to the Rue des Arts, in the desecrated church of the Augustins is the **Musée*, one of the most interesting provincial collections in France, commenced at the great Revolution under the name of "the Southern Museum of the Republic," and consisting of a *picture gallery*, containing over 400 paintings filling two rooms, one of them being the old church itself, which has been re-roofed and re-floored. The best pictures are a *Perugino*, St. John Evangelist and St. Augustin; a *Vander Meulen*, Siege of Cambray; and a curious painting of the eight capitouls forming the town council of Toulouse in 1645. There is a good collection of *casts* from the antique in the chapterhouse, an elegantly vaulted and groined hall of the 14th cent., supported on light pillars, but the *Collection of Antiquities* is the most interesting portion; it is placed under the direction of M. du Mège, who may be considered its founder. The locale which it partly occupies is the elegant Gothic *Cloister*, the traceried arches of which are supported on pillars of marble in pairs, producing an effect not unlike the Campo Santo at Pisa.

In addition to a small series of Egyptian sculptures, and a few Greek bas-reliefs (cabinet Clarac), there are numerous inscriptions, Roman and Gallic, votive altars, &c., with fragments of statues and of marbles, from various places in Languedoc and the Pyrenees, showing that the quarries of the latter were worked by the Romans. The most remarkable part of the collection, however, is the three following series, forming an almost uninterrupted chain in the history of art, from the Gallo-Roman period to the Renaissance or cinque-cento.

1st. A very large collection of antiquities dug up near the small town of Martres, on the l. bank of the Garonne, below St. Gaudens, according to M. du Mège the ancient *Calagorris*, which, in consequence of the excavations undertaken at his suggestion, has become a kind of Gaulish Pompeii. The discoveries consist of a series of about 40 busts and medallions of Roman emperors, and of members of their families, from Augustus and Claudius down to Gallienus, forming a tolerably complete portrait gallery; of a number of small statues of Pagan divinities, of good execution; a series of bas-reliefs, much mutilated, representing the Labours of Hercules; a mosaic of the head of a river god; a number of Corinthian capitals, friezes, and other architectural ornaments. Among the bronzes are a pair of *wheels* and the *pole of a Roman chariot*, dug up at Fa, near the Bains de Rennes. Two bas-reliefs, with inscriptions relating to the two Emperors named Tetricus, have given rise to much discussion among antiquaries. They were found at Nérac.

2nd. A collection of works of art of the middle ages, consisting of bas-reliefs, statues, monuments, portals, and a long series of curiously carved capitals of columns obtained from ecclesiastic edifices and Christian monuments destroyed or desecrated at or since the Revolution, beginning with early Christian tombs, sarco-

phagi, and coffins, covered with sculpture rude and debased in point of art, but showing Roman influence, bearing Christian symbols combined with heathen subjects, the cross, the labarum, the vine-branch, &c. One of these, brought from the outer wall of the church of La Daurade, where it was known by the name of *Tombeau de la Reine Pedauque* (pes aucæ, queen goose-leg), bears six bas-reliefs representing the multiplication of loaves and fishes, the raising of Lazarus, and other symbolical subjects in use amongst the early Christians. Another sarcophagus from St. Orens, at Auch, displays the sacrifice of Isaac, and Lazarus deplored by Martha, with Adam and Eve. Others of these tombs come from the ancient cemetery of St. Saturnin in Toulouse. Several bas-reliefs which ornamented a portal of that church are preserved here; one represents 2 females seated, their legs crossed; one holds a ram, the other a lion: the names of these two signs of the zodiac being written at the side. It is not improbable that they were executed in the time of Charlemagne. From St. Sernin also comes a carving of a hawk, with a human head, treading under foot a monster, inscribed "Crocodilus:" the allegory seems derived from Egypt. A pedestal in white marble, bearing 4 figures in relief, 2 of them saints with palms (St. Justus and Rusticus), the Virgin, and a crowned king, supposed to be Charlemagne, holding a lotus-headed sceptre, and wearing a cross on his breast, was brought from the Cathedral of Narbonne, of which he was the founder. The curious *Portal of the old Church of La Daurade*, pulled down in 1812 when the monastery attached to it was converted into a tobacco manufactory, has been re-erected here, as nearly as possible in its original condition. Its circular arch is supported by statues, instead of pillars: attached to it are 4 figures in bas-relief,—David playing on the Harp, and the Virgin and our Saviour, with a king and queen, founders or benefactors of the church. The *Portal of the Cathedral Chapter-house* at Toulouse, decorated with figures of the Apostles in bas-relief, has been also removed hither.

There are numerous statues, partly coloured and gilt, of Christ, the Virgin, the Apostles, and Saints. A series of more than 60 capitals of columns, almost all differing in style and decoration, the greater part ornamented with subjects from the Bible or Legends of Saints. The casts of sculptures from the church of St. Victor at Marseille, and from that of Moissac, merit attention, as well as many monumental effigies of noble knights and high-born dames, mitred abbots, bishops, and several archbishops of Toulouse.

A third division of the museum contains *Monuments of the Renaissance*, including casts from a portion of the carved wood screen-work in the Cathedral of Auch, and church of St. Bertrand de Comminges. A Pietà, in white marble, from the Carmelite church at Carcassonne, several fragments of statues, bas-reliefs, &c., by *Bachelier*, a sculptor of Toulouse, and pupil of Michael Angelo, 1485-1567. A relief, in white marble, of boys dancing, by *Pierre Paul Puget*, is very clever.

The museum also boasts of possessing the ? *ivory horn* of the renowned *Paladin Roland*, richly carved—formerly preserved in the treasury of the church of S. Sernin.

The *Jardin des Plantes* and *Musée d'Hist. Naturelle*, on the Allée St. Michel, deserve a visit. In the garden is an extensive collection of Pyrenean plants, and in the museum, of their minerals, as well as of fossil bones from the caverns of the Ariège, Aurignac, &c.

The *Public Library*, in the Rue du Lycée (10 to 3 every day except Monday), contains 60,000 vols., including the collection of Racine.

There are numerous specimens in the streets of edifices in the style of the Renaissance; one, perhaps the best, is attributed to Primaticcio, and is situated near the bridge over the Garonne.

If the visitor, after passing the bridge of St. Pierre, will follow the *Quai de*

Brienne, on the rt. bank of the Garonne, he will soon reach the *Place de la Daurade*, on which is the modern church, so named from the roof of *gilt* mosaics which originally adorned it, and the former Benedictine monastery, now the *Manufacture des Tabacs*. From here extends the Quai de la Daurade to opposite the Pont Neuf, and farther south the Rue de la Dalbade, in which is situated the *Ch. of la Dalbade* of the 15th cent., with a high wide-vaulted roof, 58 ft. span, no aisles, and E. groined apse; a great hall, quite Southern, no light admitted below and very little above. On the outside a remarkable W. façade by *Bachelier*, Renaissance portal, and a handsome bell-tower. Farther on in the same street is the *Hôtel Daguin*, more commonly known as the *Maison de Pierre*, a gaudy specimen of the style of the Renaissance; and nearly opposite, the *Hôtel Felzius*, with an ornamental portal, in much better taste, designed by *Bachelier*. Still farther on is the *Arsenal*, one of the largest in France, occupying the nunnery of Sainte Claire; and a little beyond it *Le Couvent de l'Inquisition*, an obscure edifice retaining its ill-omened name, but now converted into an educational establishment. It is memorable for crimes which stain the annals of Toulouse. Here alone, in France, was that much dreaded tribunal allowed to take root. Here, as in Spain, it brought with it its usual train of atrocities, torturings, imprisonments, roasting at the stake the living, tearing up the dead from their graves, or refusing Christian burial to its victims. It was first established here, in the time of Count Raymond VII. (1221), by the ecclesiastical council assembled to exterminate the heresy of the Albigenses, which, at the beginning of the 13th cent., had overspread the entire S. of France, under the connivance or encouragement of Raymond VI., of Toulouse, one of the wealthiest and most powerful princes of his time. St. Dominick himself, the founder of the Inquisition, visited Toulouse to water the thriving offset from his own terrible foundation; the cell which he occupied was shown until 1772.

The *Place de Salin* was the scene upon which the Autos da Fé took place by order of the Inquisition.

J. S. Vanini, a Neapolitan, condemned as an atheist, was burned here, protesting his innocence, 1619.

The house No. 50, Rue des Filatiers, was in 1762 occupied by a respectable Protestant family, named Calas. The father, Jean Calas, carried on the trade of a draper, and prospered, in good repute with his neighbours, and in contentment at home. The only exception to his domestic happiness was the conversion, by a priest named Durand, of his third son, Jean Louis, to the Roman Catholic faith. The youth had, in consequence, been sent from home, receiving a small allowance from his father. On the night of the 13th-14th October, 1761, cries were heard issuing from the house of Calas, and the chief of police, with an escort of soldiers, on entering it, found near the door the dead body of the eldest son of Calas, Marc Antoine by name. A *procès-verbal* was prepared, declaring that he had hung himself; which there can be no doubt was the truth, for he was of a desponding temperament; but a malicious cry was raised in the crowd by a person unknown, that he had been strangled by his father, to prevent his abjuring Calvinism as his brother had done, and the report spread, and was partly believed by the fanatic Toulousans. The elder Calas was in consequence accused of the murder of his own son, before the Parliament of Toulouse; and that ancient and venerable assembly, without listening to the evidence which had been prepared, and without any proof of his guilt, sullied its reputation for justice by condemning him, at the age of 63, to be tortured and broken on the wheel, and his remains to be burnt and scattered to the winds.

The sentence of condemnation, in virtue of which this judicial murder was perpetrated, runs as follows:—"La Cour le condamne à être livré

aux mains de l'exécuteur de la haute justice, qui, tête, pieds nus, et en chemise, la hart au col, le montera sur le chariot à ce destiné, et le conduira devant la porte principale de l'Église de Toulouse; où, étant à genoux, tenant entre ses mains une torche de cire jaune allumée, du poids de deux livres, il fera amende honorable, et demandera pardon à Dieu, au Roi et à la justice, de ses crimes et méfaits; ce fait, le remontera sur le chariot, et le conduira à la Place Saint-George de cette ville, où, sur un échafaud, qui y sera à cet effet dressé, il lui rompra et brisera les bras, iambes, cuisses et reins; ensuite l'exposera sur une roue qui sera dressée tout auprès du dit échafaud, la face tournée vers le ciel, pour y vivre en peine et repentance de ses dits méfaits, servir d'exemple, et donner de la terreur aux méchants, tout autant qu'il plaise à Dieu de lui donner la vie; et son corps sera jeté dans un bûcher préparé à cet effet sur la dite Place, pour y être consumé par les flammes, et ensuite (ses cendres) jetées au vent. Préalablement le dit Calas sera appliqué à la question ordinaire et extraordinaire, sera le dit Calas père étranglé, après avoir resté deux heures sur la roue. Jugé le 9 mai 1762.—Cassan, Clairac, rapporteurs." He bore the torture inflicted on him in the Hôtel de Ville with the greatest firmness, answering all questions with the utmost clearness, and giving no advantage to his interrogators, but persisting in maintaining his innocence. On the scaffold, after suffering with the most patient resignation the agonies of his punishment for 2 whole hours, during which he was subjected to the mental rackings of a Romish priest, being still fully alive, the signal was given to the executioner to inflict the "*coup de grâce*."

"De faux témoins ont égaré mes juges," exclaimed he, before breathing his last breath; "je meurs innocent: Jésus-Christ, qui était l'innocence même, voulut mourir par un supplice plus cruel encore." The very Dominican Friars who attended Calas exclaimed as he expired, "Il est mort un juste!" With his murder an end was put to the cruel persecutions of the Protestants which had disgraced the South of France for almost a century, and, chiefly owing to the praiseworthy exertions of Voltaire and his able advocate Élie de Beaumont in defending Jean Calas and exposing his persecutors, his sentence was reversed and his innocence proclaimed by the Parliament at Paris.

The *Palais de Justice*, at a short distance from the cannon foundry, totally modernised, and for the most part a new building, was the seat of the Parliament of Toulouse, where its sittings were held. The handsome *Boulevard St. Michel* leads from here to the Jardin des Plantes and the *Grand Rond* or *Boulingrin*, the handsomest promenade in the city.

At a short distance below the Bridge of St. Pierre the navigation of the Garonne is interrupted by the *Bazacle*, a weir thrown across it to supply water to a large corn-mill.

Between this mill and the Pont St. Pierre is the mouth of the *Canal de Brienne*, constructed by the archbishop whose name it bears, to remedy the interruption in the navigation caused by the mill-weir. It runs nearly parallel with the Garonne for about ¾ mile below the Bazacle, and then falls into the *Canal du Midi*. A fine avenue of trees leads to this *junction*. Here the 2 canals are crossed by small bridges, between which, on a level with the water, is stuck a large piece of sculpture, in high relief, of white marble, representing some unmeaning allegory, without allusion to the founder of the great work, Riquet, and contemptible in execution.

A few hundred yards below this, the *Canal du Midi* (Rte. 93), after sweeping round the E. and N. sides of the city of Toulouse, enters the Garonne through a basin provided with double locks, and guarded against ice by a sort of pier. The Garonne is at this point 144 mètres, or 472 feet, above the level of the Atlantic. The navigation of the Garonne, though carried on by barges, is very difficult, owing to rocks and stems of trees in its bed, from

Toulouse to the junction of the Tarn; but this is remedied by the construction of a magnificent canal, in continuation of the *Canal du Midi*, running parallel to the Garonne as far as Agen (Rte. 73).

At the battle of Toulouse the inner bank of the canal, towards the town, was lined with French troops, and every bridge over it strongly defended by têtes de pont and intrenchments. In an attack made by the British Light Division upon the bridge nearest the embouchure of the canal, intended by the Duke of Wellington merely as a feint but converted by Picton, in disobedience to orders, into a hopeless assault, the British were repulsed with a loss of 400 men.

A *monument* has been erected, in the grounds of the Château Gragnague, near the rly. stat. of that name, 10 min. walk from the city, on the N. side of the canal, to a British officer of great merit, Colonel Forbes, of the 45th regiment. Several other English monumental tablets to officers who fell in the battle of Toulouse, placed in the Protestant ch., were restored by command of the late Emp. Napoleon III.

The best point for surveying the *field of the Battle of Toulouse* (April 10, 1814), as well as for viewing the town, is the *Obelisk* of brick, erected by the city, "Aux Braves morts pour la Patrie," occupying the site of one of Marshal Soult's redoubts, taken by the English, on the height of Calvinet. It is reached by traversing the fine oval *Place*, and the broad *Avenue* crossing the canal at the flying bridge, or Pont Matabiau, and ascending at the back of the Ecole Vétérinaire. The chief interest of the view is the distant chain of the Pyrenees, occupying the horizon, whose peaks may be discerned, in fine weather, from the Canigou on the E. to the Pic du Midi de Bigorre on the W., with the Maladetta, Crabioules, and Mt. Perdu in the centre. The city itself is not striking; the country around is very flat and monotonous, and the Garonne runs in too deep a bed to form a feature in the landscape.

Marshal Soult's position was along the heights called *La Colonne* (by Napier Mont Rave), composed of two platforms, Calvinet (on which stands the obelisk) and Sypierre, both of which had been fortified, several weeks beforehand, with 5 redoubts, and intrenchments between them, mounted with a great many guns. The action was rather the storming of an intrenched citadel than a battle. The hill of Colonne is a natural citadel and the bulwark of Toulouse, entirely insulated except on its S. side. The position was supported by the canal, and by the ramparts by which the town was then surrounded in the rear of the canal; and in front the position was covered by the Ers. That stream was at the time unfordable, and all the bridges over it had been blown up, or strongly guarded, except that of Croix Daurade, taken by the British Hussars the day before the battle. General Beresford's division, which achieved the victory, had to make a flank movement, marching for 2 m. up the rt. bank of the Ers, between the stream and the position of Soult, under the fire from the heights, over marshy ground, intersected by watercourses and a deep sunk road, and rendered almost impassable by artificial inundations. After passing Calvinet, the British troops formed, and, charging up the height, took first the redoubt on Sypierre, and afterwards those on Calvinet. Here, however, a terrible struggle took place: the British, "clinging to the brow of the hill," in spite of the masses opposed to them, stood fast on the ground they had gained; and though the French made desperate efforts from the canal, they never retook it. A previous attack on Calvinet, made in the early part of the day by the Spaniards, had been very different in its result; so quickly, indeed, did they retire, that the Duke of Wellington said of them, "he never before saw 10,000 men running a race;" 1500 of them were slaughtered on the slope of this hill, chiefly in a hollow road upon its flank, raked by a battery from the Pont de Matabiau on the canal, which "sent

its bullets from flank to flank, hissing through the quivering mass of flesh and bones," to use the words of Colonel Napier. No traces of the intrenchments remain.

At 5 o'clock P.M. Soult withdrew his whole army behind the canal. The next day he remained inactive, and on the night of the 11th was "forced to abandon" Toulouse, leaving behind 1600 wounded and 3 generals, to fall prisoners into the hands of the allies. They lost in this battle 4659 men and 4 generals; the French nearly 3000, and 5 generals killed or wounded; a useless waste of human life, since Napoleon had abdicated some days previously, on the 4th April, though that event was unknown to either of the commanders. There can be no doubt that the charge brought against Marshal Soult of fighting this battle though aware of what had happened at Paris is unfounded, and the Duke of Wellington himself has nobly vindicated him from it. The forces of the allies amounted to 52,000 men; but of these only 24,000, and 52 guns, were actually engaged; the French had 38,000 men, with from 80 to 90 guns. This is the estimate drawn out with the utmost fairness by Colonel Napier.

Not far from the hill of the Obelisk is the public *Cemetery* and *Jardin des Plantes*.

The principal *Cafés* are in the Place du Capitole. The market held here is very abundantly supplied: fruit, vegetables, poultry, and wine are very cheap; butter and milk dear; ortolans, truffles, figs, pâtés de *foies de canards*, are the delicacies which the gourmand will appreciate here.

Fiacres, good, 90 c. the course; 1 fr. 50 c. the hour.

Post Office, Rue St. Ursule.

The country immediately about Toulouse is generally flat and uninteresting, and, being besides arid, and burnt up in summer, the want of shade and verdure, and the excessive dust, offer no inducements to explore it.

Railways to Bordeaux by Montauban and Agen (Rte. 73); to Cette and Marseilles by Carcassonne, Narbonne, Nimes and Arles; to Tarbes, Pau, Bayonne; and the W. Pyrenees generally; to Pamiers and Foix; to Limoux, Perpignan, and the E. Pyrenees; to Albi and Capdenac.

ROUTE 72B.

TESSONIÈRES TO CASTELNAUDARY, BY ALBI [CARMAUX] AND CASTRES—RAIL.

Distance, 76 m.; *time*, 5 to 6 hrs.; *trains*, 2 daily.

From *Tessonières* Junct. Stat. (in Rte. 72) the Rly. proceeds E., crossing the Tarn, by the village of *Marsac* to

10 m. **Albi** Junct. Stat. (*Inns:* H. Dépratz, very good and moderate; H. des Ambassadeurs; H. du Nord, also good)—an ancient city, chief town of the Dépt. du Tarn, 17,469 Inhab., in the midst of the plain of Languedoc, watered by the river Tarn, here crossed by a modern *Bridge* of open brickwork. Its buildings are of brick, as throughout all this district. The ramparts have been thrown down and planted, especially on the side next the new Quartier de Vigan, where extensive *walks*, avenues, and gardens have replaced them.

The **Cathedral of St. Cecile* (M. H.), the chief building in the town, is a noble Gothic edifice of brick, entirely Southern in design, but Northern in details. It was begun about the *middle* of the 14th cent., and is chiefly of that age, interrupted at the beginning of the 15th. The tower at the W. *end* is 290 ft. high, and resembles a massive brick donjon, built for defence,

presenting no opening in the lower part. The entrance on the S. side is raised considerably above the ground, and was protected by outer works, of which one tower still remains. On the N. side the *Sacristies*, strongly fortified, connected it with the *Bishop's Palace*, itself a fortress, with a massive keep, and outworks continued down to the river. The *S. porch*, of 3 open arches, enriched with mouldings and tracery, is a fine example of the style of the beginning of the 16th cent., and has been well restored (1868). It is approached by a flight of steps. The interior, like other churches in the S., is one immense unbroken vaulted hall, 262ft. long, without transepts or aisles, and unsupported by pillars, 98 ft. high, and 62 ft. wide, not including the chapels which surround the lower part of the building, and are continued up to the roof, in duplicate chapels not used. The *Choir* is merely the E. half of the chancel inclosed, and divided from the nave by a *rood-loft* (*jubé*) of extreme beauty of design, and elaborate delicacy of execution in its Gothic tracery, foliage, &c.; the inclosure of the choir is of equally rich workmanship, the date of both being early in the 16th cent. But one of the most singular features in this curious ch. is the profusion of *paintings* of Scripture subjects—Last Judgment, &c.—covering the entire roof and walls, which escaped destruction at the Revolution; portions in the vaults are of the utmost freshness, on an azure ground, the work of Italian artists early in the 16th cent. (1505). In some of the side chapels are paintings in a style resembling that of the early German schools; and though the plain surface of such a large simple exterior requires decoration, it must be confessed that the effect in this instance is far from pleasing. The stone carvings of the choir, consisting of elaborate tabernacle work with a profusion of statues, were executed for Cardinal d'Amboise by a company of itinerant masons from Strasbourg. *Obs.* at the W. end of the interior the circular basement on which the huge tower rests, and the buttresses with curved faces outside.

The *Préfecture*, on the margin of the Tarn, formerly the Episcopal Palace, but at a still earlier period the residence of the counts of the Albigeois, is a castellated edifice with much Gothic enrichment. It has a pretty terraced garden, overlooking the river.

The *Ch. of St. Salvi* (M.H.), near the cathedral, retains Romanesque remains, and a cloister of the 12th cent., in which is a pretty recessed tomb of the 13th cent.

There are some manufactures here of coarse linens, candles, and cutting implements, files, scythes; also of *woad* (pastel), which has been made here from a very early period. The chief commerce is in grain; the plain of Albi being one of the richest corn countries of Southern France.

Albi has given its name to the sect of dissenters from the Ch. of Rome, the *Albigeois*, who abounded in the district during the 12th and beginning of the 13th centuries, and who were condemned as heretics by a council held here, 1254, and soon after nearly exterminated at the siege of Beziers (Rte. 126).

Albi was the birthplace of the unfortunate circumnavigator, La Peyrouse. A statue of him has been erected on the Place; an anchor, fished up from the sea, supposed to have belonged to his ship, is placed beside it.

The little *Ch.* of *Lescures*, on the opposite side of the river, is quite a model of the Byzantine style of the 11th cent. as it exists in this part of France.

At *Saut de Sabot*, about 3 m. off, the course of the Tarn is intercepted by rapids of considerable descent, by the side of which works for the manufacture of steel are established.

The *Castle* of Castelnau de Levi, on the rt. bank of the Tarn, is a picturesque object.

[Branch *Rly.* N. 9 m., over a hilly country, separating the valleys of the Tarn and Céron, to

Carmaux Stat., on the Céron, a town of 4758 Inhab.; coal-mines are worked near here.]

The line continues S.E. over a level country to

30 m. *Castres* Junct. Stat. (*Inn:* H. du Nord). The largest town (Pop. 24,000) of the Dépt. du Tarn, on the Agout, which descends from the Montagne Noire. There are several specimens of mediæval architecture here. [Branch Rly. S.E., 12 m. to *Mazamet*, and *in progress* on to St. Pons.]

22 m. *Revel* Stat. (*Inn:* H. de la Lune), a town of 5600 Inhab., near which is a handsome château belonging to the Count Las Casas, the descendant of Napoleon I.'s companion in exile, and who wrote the 'Mémorial de Ste. Hélène.'

The *Bassin de St. Ferréol*, the principal reservoir of the Canal du Midi (see Rte. 93), is 2 m. from Revel. Beyond Revel is *Sorrèze*, celebrated for its Benedictine monastery, long a great educational establishment. Of late years it passed to the Dominican friars, under the direction of the eminent writer Lacordaire, who died here in 1861. The original monastery is supposed to have been founded in the 8th cent.

From Revel the line continues S. to

9 m. *Soupetz* Stat., passing on rt. the *Château de St. Paulet*, a castle belonging to the Turenne family, to which the heart of the great commander has been removed from the Invalides.

Crossing the Canal du Midi, the line reaches

7 m. *Castelnaudary* Junct. Stat. in Rte. 93.

ROUTE 73.

TOULOUSE TO BORDEAUX—RAIL.

	Kil.	Miles.
Toulouse to Montauban . .	51	31
Moissac	80	50
Valence d'Agen . . .	95	60
Agen	121	75
Tonneins	157	100
Marmande	178	110
La Réole	196	121
Langon	215	133
Bordeaux	257	159

4 trains daily, in 5½ to 9 hrs.

The first part of the line from Toulouse crosses a monotonous continuation of the plain of Languedoc. The rly. runs parallel to the Garonne and the *Canal de la Garonne*, a continuation of the Canal du Midi, made to avoid the difficulties of the navigation of the river.

18 m. *Grisolles* Stat., between the canal and the river.

The Garonne runs parallel with the rly., at a little distance on the l. The British army, under the Duke of Wellington, passed the river, before the battle of Toulouse, by 2 pontoon bridges, above the small town of Grenade on the l. bank, nearly opposite Castelnau, 15 m. below Toulouse. The capture of the bridge over it at la Croix Daurade, by a gallant charge of the 18th hussars, on the day before the battle, secured a communication between the columns of the allied army, part of which marched up the rt. and part up the l. bank of the Lers, to attack the strong position of Marshal Soult.

14 m. **Montauban** Junct. Stat. (Buffet) (*Inns:* H. de l'Europe, good; H. de France; H. du Midi). This capital of the Dépt. de Tarn-et-Garonne is a town of 27,054 Inhab., with clean and wide streets, on the rt. bank of the Tarn, here lined by a handsome quay, and crossed by a brick bridge built in 1335, but modernized, at the end of which stands the *Préfecture*, a square building with 4 turrets at its angles. The *Cathedral* is a large modern building in the Italian style of 18th cent., with a façade at the W. end. In it and in the ch. of the suburb of Sapiac are 2 paintings by the late *M. Ingres*, who was born here. The octagon brick tower of the *Ch. of St. Jacques* (14th cent.) deserves notice.

The *H. de Ville*—at the E. end of the bridge, contains a *collection of Pictures*, the only remarkable part of which are drawings and other works by *Ingres*, bequeathed by him to his native town, occupying 2 rooms. *Obs.* Jesus among

the Doctors, many original sketches by him; an antique statue of Cupid, &c.

"The *Promenade* of *Les Terrasses* on the borders of the Tescou, and on the highest part of the ramparts, commands that noble plain, one of the richest in Europe, which extends on one side to the sea, and in front to the Pyrenees, whose towering masses, heaped one upon another in a stupendous manner, and covered with snow, offer a variety of lights and shades from their indented forms and the immensity of their projections. This prospect has a sort of oceanic vastness, in which the eye loses itself; an almost boundless scene of cultivation; an animated but confused mass of infinitely varied parts, melting gradually into the distant obscure, from which arises the amazing frame of the Pyrenees, rearing their silvered heads far above the clouds."—*A. Young.*

Montauban is a flourishing manufacturing town, producing various kinds of woollen tissues. Nearly one-half of its Inhab. are Protestants, and there is a *College* here for the instruction of young men destined for the Reformed Church ministry.

In the 16th and 17th cents. Montauban was a great stronghold of Protestantism, its inhabitants having early embraced the Reformed doctrines. It endured in consequence a memorable siege in 1621, from the royal army led on by the favourite De Luynes, who brought hither his master Louis XIII.; but, instead of witnessing its fall, after nearly 3 months of fruitless assault, Louis and his minister were forced to withdraw, such was the obstinate bravery of the inhabitants and the skill of their governors. In the reign of Louis XIV., under the influence of Madame de Maintenon, the Protestants of Montauban were singled out to suffer the direst persecutions, inflicted by the so-called *Dragonnades*, or quartering of regiments of soldiers on them, who exercised every species of licence, inquisitorial tyranny, and cruelty, with the design of forcing them to become Roman Catholics.

[Branch *Rly.* E. to Lexos Junct. Stat. (see Rte. 72).]

Leaving Montauban, the country is still admirably cultivated, but monotonous.

7 m. *Villedieu* Stat.

5 m. *Castel Sarrazin* Stat., a town of 6836 Inhab., carrying on some trade in the corn grown on the plain around. Opinions differ as to the origin of the name; some deriving it from the Saracens, who may have built the *Castle*, of which scanty remains exist, to secure themselves in this part of France; others, from Castel-sur-Azin, the name of the small stream running through it. It has a curious ch. of Transition period, with a massive W. octagon.

The river *Tarn* is crossed by a tubular bridge close to an aqueduct over which the canal is carried.

5 m. *Moissac* Stat. (*Inns:* H. du Nord; H. du Midi), a town of 10,295 Inhab., on the rt. bank of the Tarn. Its interesting *Ch. of St. Pierre and St. Paul* (M. H.), once attributed to a celebrated abbey founded by Clovis, or more probably by St. Amand of Maestricht in the 7th cent., has a very remarkable *portal*, "together with a mass of work surrounding the tower, battlemented, and designed for defence, which was added about 1150 to a narthex with a vaulted chamber and incomplete tower over it, all built about 1100. The upper chamber formerly had 3 openings into the old ch., and the narthex below now opens into the *present Ch.* (of the beginning of the 15th cent.), which has neither aisles nor transepts, but a mere inclosure for choir and side chapels, with other inaccessible chapels above them as at Albi."—*D. T.* The *Porch* is deeply recessed, preceding a pointed arch, the mouldings and tympanum of which, over the door, are enriched with the most fantastic sculptures, designed with the utmost boldness and fancy. Figures of apostles, saints, angels, bas-reliefs, fanciful patterns and mouldings, have been dashed off with wonderful freedom. The central pier of marble, supporting the

doorway, is composed of lions intertwined, and the side walls under the porch are covered with sculpture in marble, showing both Byzantine and Runic elements in the design. The band of circular rosettes on the lintel is of classical beauty. In the interior are some very early mosaics.

The *cloisters* (M. H.), a range of pointed arches, resting on twin pillars with singular capitals, were constructed in 1110, as is recorded on one of the pillars, the materials of an older structure being worked up in them. The Refectory was destroyed to make room for the railway.

An ancient fountain in the town merits notice.

A suspension-bridge of 4 loops crosses rly., canal, and river Tarn.

5 m. *Malause* Stat., a prettily situated town, whose ancient castle has been destroyed since the first Revolution. The flat land ceases here, and the country around is more pleasing: the Garonne, which the rly. now approaches, is a charming feature in the landscape.

4 m. *Valence d'Agen* Stat. A town of 3697 Inhab., by the Garonne.

14 m. *Bon-Encontre* Junct. Stat. [*Rly.* S. to Auch and Tarbes (Rte. 79).]

3 m. **Agen** Junct. Stat. (*Buffet*, good) (*Inns:* H. de France, good and cheap; H. des Ambassadeurs, good and moderate).

This chief town of the Dépt. de Lot-et-Garonne, consists of an old quarter, composed chiefly of narrow streets, with 18,887 Inhab., agreeably situated on the rt. bank of the Garonne; and of a cheerful modern quarter, whose houses creep up the hill behind the station, covered with trees, vineyards, and country-houses, called la Côte de l'Ermitage, from a grotto once occupied by a hermit. It is surmounted by a colossal statue of the Virgin, and a modern Gothic church. The Garonne is here crossed by a stone bridge and a *Suspension-Bridge*, between which and the town runs a beautiful avenue of trees, forming an agreeable promenade called *Le Graviers*. Here a great *Fair* is held in the month of June.

The *Canal* is carried over the Garonne here, on a 3rd *Bridge* or ponderous *Aqueduct* of 23 arches.

The *Cath. of St. Caprais* (M. H.), near the Stat., is a Romanesque building, very wide; the 3 apses and part of transept alone are of 11th cent. It has been badly restored. There are a few scanty remains of the cathedral of St. Étienne, destroyed at the Revolution; its site is now the cattle-market.

The *Ch. of the Jacobins* (13th cent.) of brick, spacious and lofty, with 2 parallel aisles. The portals are modern.

The *Préfecture*, originally the episcopal palace, is a handsome edifice.

Agen was known to the Romans under the name *Agedinum*. The early Christians suffered severe persecution here from a Roman prætor; and St. Vincent, the 2nd bishop, and many followers, underwent martyrdom, being torn to pieces on the spot now occupied by the Fontaine St. Vincent.

Those who have time should walk to the top of the rocky height of *L'Ermitage*, on the way to Villeneuve, for the sake of the view over the valley of the Garonne and the distant Pyrenees. In a pretty gorge or recess in the slope of the hill is the house of the great scholar Julius Scaliger, whither he retired, in the reign of Francis I., after migrating from his native city, Verona. He died here 1558; and here his no less learned son, Joseph Justus was born 1540. Agen is also the birthplace of Bernard Palissy, inventor of a beautiful species of earthenware, the Wedgwood of the 16th century; also of the naturalists Lacépède and Bory de St. Vincent. Here was born, and dwelt and sang until his death, a rustic poet named Jasmin, a perruquier by trade, the last representative of the Troubadours. His songs are very popular throughout the S. of France, in the country of the Langue d'Oc.

A great number of orchards of plum-trees clothe the slopes and fields about the town, and produce the well-known *pruneaux d'Agen*, which form an article of considerable export trade.

Between Agen and Tonneins is also exceedingly fertile, and round the

fields are seen the apricot, plum, greengage, and cherry trees which supply Europe with preserved fruit. The fruit is dried in stoves on the spot.

[*Excursion:* To the Castle of Montluc, to the ch. of Moirax.]

Railways: To Paris by Périgueux, Limoges, and Orleans (Rtes. 71 and 70);—to Auch and Tarbes (Rte. 79): the most direct line between Paris and the central region of the Pyrenees.

Leaving Agen, the rly. runs parallel to the Garonne as far as Bordeaux.

13 m. *Port Ste. Marie* Stat.

[11 m. S. (*Rly.* in progress) is **Nerac** (*Inn:* H. du Tertre, clean, good, and moderate, famous for its *pâtés*, or *terrines* de perdrix), a town of 7717 Inhab., pleasantly situated on the Baïse, once capital of the duchy d'Albret. It was an ancient possession of the family d'Albret, who built and resided in the venerable *Castle* (M. H.), which remained nearly entire down to the Revolution, but is now demolished, excepting one wing, and its fosses turned into gardens. Yet even this fragment is interesting, because within its walls Marguerite d'Angoulême, Queen of Navarre, held her court, assembling around her the men most distinguished by learning and literary genius of the time; among others, Calvin, Beza, Clement Marot, here found an asylum from persecution down to 1534. At a later period, the "Bon Roi Henri," whose mother resided in the castle to within four months of his birth, passed here a portion of his youth. His chamber is pointed out at the W. end of the building. Here, in 1579, Catherine de Medicis held a conference.

The promenade called *La Garenne* was once the park of the kings of Navarre, planted by Marguerite de Valois. A bronze *statue*, by Raggi, of *Henri IV.* has been erected here to his memory by a private individual, inscribed "Alumno, mox Patri Nostro H^co. IV."

The *Fontaine de St. Jean* is overshadowed by 2 elms, planted by Henri IV. and Marguerite de Valois.

Corks are manufactured here for the wine-merchants of Bordeaux.]

5 m. *Aiguillon* Stat., a town of 3876 Inhab., on the l. bank of the Lot, about a mile above its influx into the Garonne. Its principal building is the large *Château* on an eminence, left unfinished by the Duc d'Aiguillon, minister of Louis XV. The duchy of Aiguillon was created by Henri IV., 1599, in favour of the Duc de Mayenne. The old castle, so stoutly defended by the English in 1346, when besieged for 5 months by Jean Duc de Normandie, son of Philippe de Valois, with an army of 60,000 men, no longer exists. Although the prince directed against it 20 assaults in 7 days, and though he had sworn not to move until it was taken, he was compelled to retire from before its walls without having succeeded, being called off by intelligence of his father's defeat at Crécy.

10 m. *Tonneins* Stat. (*Inns:* H. de l'Europe, clean, and fair cooking; H. d'Angleterre), a cheerful-looking town, chiefly of modern buildings, remarkable for the beauty of its situation, on the rt. bank of the Garonne, containing 8275 Inhab., half of whom are Protestants. The population of this part of the country, particularly in the villages, is principally Protestant. There are extensive manufactures of cordage here, and a royal manufactory of *tobacco*, large quantities of which are cultivated around Tonneins, and throughout the Dépts. of the Lot and Lot-et-Garonne. There is a suspension-bridge over the Garonne here.

10 m. *Marmande* Stat. (*Inns:* H. du Chemin de Fer; H. des Messageries), a town of venerable aspect, many of its houses being timber-framed. Pop. 8564. The *Church*, 15th cent. (M. H.), has a fine nave and a cloister. From this the castle of Biron (Rte. 72A) may be visited.

The railroad avoids the windings made by the river below Marmande, being carried in nearly a straight line.

A fine suspension-bridge of a single span, 558 ft. wide, crosses the river at

11 m. *La Réole* Stat. (*Inns:* H. Lafont; H. Réglade), a town of 4244 Inhab., retaining the ruins of an ancient *Castle*, which Froissart says was built by the Saracens. The vast Benedictine monastery, rebuilt in the 17th century and suppressed at the Revolution, has been converted into a nunnery. *Obs.* the Gothic *Ch. of St. Pierre* (M. H.), of the 13th to the 15th cents.

11 m. *St. Macaire* Stat., retaining its feudal walls and possessing a fine Romanesque *Ch. of St. Sauveur*, of the 12th cent., with a façade of the 13th, and the interior covered with frescoes of the same date not very judiciously restored. A *Bridge*, 656 ft. long, carries the *Rly.* over the Garonne into

2 m. *Langon* Junct. Stat. (*Inn:* H. Lion d'Or, dirty, but good food; H. du Cheval Blanc), a town of 4700 Inhab., partly surrounded by old walls, on the l. bank of the Garonne, crossed only by a ferry-boat until 1831, when the *Suspension-Bridge* was thrown across. The *Ch.* built by the English has 12 modern painted windows.

The tide runs up as far as this.

[Branch Rly. S. 8 m. to *Nizan* Junct. Stat., whence branch S.W. to Sore, through St. Symphorien, and 5 m. Villandraut, near which is the Castle in which was born Bertrand de Goth, who became pope under the name of Clement V.

The S.E. branch from Nizan leads to

5 m. *Bazas* Stat. (*Inns:* H. Cheval Blanc, clean and good; H. Cazeau, small, but clean), an ancient town of 4766 Inhab., which existed in the time of the Romans, and is mentioned under the name of Vesates by Ausonius, whose father was born here. It has a good Gothic *Church* (M. H.), once a cathedral, without transepts, but with aisles in pure Northern style. The W. façade has 3 portals rich in sculpture, which has been much mutilated, originally very good, but finishing above in an ill-looking Renaissance top; a good N. steeple with crocketed spire. It dates for the most part late in the 13th cent., but has portions of 14th, 15th, and even 16th cents., when the nave vaults and some piers, destroyed by the Huguenots, were rebuilt. Every window is filled with modern glass. Bazas retains on its outskirts fragments of the old town walls, flanked by towers. Under them, to the S., is a pretty Public Walk overlooking a valley.]

The banks of the river along the main line of rly. are here clothed with vineyards, whose produce is chiefly white wines, known by the name of Vins de Grave. Sauterne and Barsac are both grown in the commune of

3 m. *Preignac* Stat. The *Château d'Yquem* is the prince of the wines of this district.

2 m. *Barsac* Stat., whence comes the white wine so named, is a town of 2917 Inhab.

[*Cadillac* (Pop. 2777), on the opposite rt. bank of the Garonne, was the seat of the Duc d'Epernon, governor of the province of Guienne in the 17th cent.; the first duke, who was a great favourite of Henri III., but died in the prison of Loches, built the *Château* (1598), which is now converted into a female *Penitentiary*. The *Ch.* of Cadillac has a handsome Romanesque façade. Wine-casks are manufactured in large quantities here.]

3 m. *Cérons* Stat., an old castle.

2 m. *Podensac* Stat.

[At *Langoiron*, on the rt. bank of the Garonne, at the foot of the slope, are ruins of a *Castle* built apparently in the 14th cent.: near this Berquin, the author of 'L'Ami des Enfans,' was born.]

3 m. *Portets* Stat.

The country now becomes more open; we are in fact on the border of the Landes. Near Bordeaux a succession of vineyards and country-houses are passed. Here, however, the vines are trained on poles, and not along the ground, and produce a very strong dark red wine, which is converted by distillation into brandy.

3 m. *St. Médard d'Eyrans* Stat.

[4 m. distant is the *Château de la Brède*, the birthplace and family seat of Secondat de Montesquieu. It is a low, many-sided castle (M. H.), probably of


BORDEAUX
for Murray's Handbook.
N
Railway Station
Boulevard de Talence
Route de St Genes
Route de Bayonne
Route de Toulouse
Route d'Espagne
Jews' Cemetery
Rue Regert
Rue Vieuxtemps
Rue Bixio
Boulevard de Bègles
Central Railway Station
Rue Carl Vernet
Boulevard Bourg
Quai de Paludate
Bassin d'Alimentation
Chemin
1
2
A
B
C
D
E

erent periods down to the 16th century, surmounted by a circular donjon irely surrounded by the waters of e Guèmort, which forms a broad sse around it, and served anciently defend it, since it can only be ntered by three bridges (once drawridges). It is far from imposing, either ithout or within. It retains its priitive condition nearly unaltered, toether with some old portraits of the econdat family; and, above all, the *hamber* of Montesquieu, with his imple bed, arm-chair, &c., which erved as dressing-room, cabinet de travail, study, &c., nearly as he left it. The wainscoting on one side of the fireplace is rubbed by the motion of his foot resting against it, a habit attributed to him when seated in his easy chair, lost in thought, meditating on his works. It was here that he composed his great work 'Sur la Grandeur et la Décadence des Romains,' while it is reported that the dark feudal cachot beneath the castle, which is entered by a stair from his room, was his resort while he was preparing his reflections 'On the Liberty of the Subject.' This château, with the adjoining estate, one of the most interesting monuments of La Guienne, belonging originally to the Lalande family, has been in the Secondat family since 1577, when it was purchased by Jean de Secondat, the maître-d'hôtel of the father of Henri IV. and of Jeanne d'Albret. Here Charles de Secondat, the great historian and philosopher, was born in 1689, and passed the greater part of his days. La Brède is still in the possession of one of his descendants, who liberally allows it to be visited. On the upper floor is the library, containing amongst other treasures the MS. of the *Lettres persanes.*]

9 m. **Bordeaux** Junct. Stat. There are 4 stations:—*La Bastide,* to the E. of the city, on the rt. bank of the river, near the great bridge, and connected by a fine iron rly. bridge with that of *St. Jean,* which is on the l. bank in the S.E. part of the city, and nearly 2 m. from the principal hotels. The *Gare de Médoc* is at the N. extremity of the town, for the large goods traffic with the wine districts, and the Stat. for *La Teste* is on the S.W. side of the town. Omnibuses to the principal hotels, and excellent hackney vehicles at 1·75 fr. the course, and 2 fr. an hour, with a small extra charge for luggage.

(*Inns:* H. de Paris, frequented by English, good; H. de la Paix; H. de Nantes, Quai Louis XVIII., dear; H. de France, dear, Rue Esprit des Lois; H. de Richelieu, Cours de l'Intendance, good situation; H. des Ambassadeurs, Cours de l'Intendance; H. Lambert, Rue Gobineau, good and moderate; H. du Périgord.)

The *Restaurants* bear a high reputation; that of the *Hotel de Bayonne* is much patronized.

The following itinerary will embrace the most remarkable objects at Bordeaux in their topographical order. Very good open carriages, at 2 fr. an hour, will enable the visitor to visit everything in a day. Leaving the Quai Louis XVIII., near where are the principal hotels: *Place des Quinconces, Bourse, Pavée des Chartrons, Cours de Jardin Public, Jardin Public* and *Museum of Natural History, Palais Gallien, Cours* and *Allées de Tourny, Place Dauphine* and *Ch. of St. Seurin, Cours D'Albert,* CATHEDRAL, *Hôtel de Ville, Museum, Halles Centrales, Place de Bourgogne, Colonnes Rostrales* and *Bridge, Ch. of St. Michel, Ch. of St. Croix,* Central Rly. Stat.; and if time permits, a drive round the outer Boulevards to the public cemetery, and from there to the Médoc Rly. Stat., returning along the Quais and the *Quartier des Chartrons.*

Bordeaux, the third seaport-town of France, capital of the Dépt. de la Gironde, containing 194,241 Inhab., is situated on the l. bank of the Garonne, where its voluminous stream makes a very regular curve, which, being lined with *Quais* and handsome buildings of varied architecture, forms a noble crescent, not less than 3 m. long, surmounted by several Gothic towers and antique spires. No city in Europe can display a more splendid water-front than this. The river abreast of the town, 2000 ft. wide, and

18 to 30 ft. deep, is filled with shipping up to the magnificent *Bridge*, the handsomest in France. (See below.) The Cours du Chapeau Rouge and de l'Intendance, running E. and W. through the heart of the city, nearly separate the old town, of narrow though very populous streets, from the N. or more modern quarter, consisting of wide openings, broad streets, which render Bordeaux a sprawling city, difficult to get over on foot; but omnibuses and good fiacres are abundant.

The *Allées de Tourny*, named from an ancient intendant of the province, who in 1750 led the way to the improving the city, have been since continued by the Cours du Jardin Public, extending from the Place Dauphine by the Promenade or Jardin Public to the Médoc Railway Station.

Some of the finest streets and rows of houses, and the open *Place des Quinconces* terminating at the river-side with 2 lofty rostral columns, occupy the site of a citadel called Château Trompette, built by Vauban for Louis XIV. to overawe the inhabitants, dismantled under Louis XVI., and removed since the Restoration. The construction of this new quarter has united with the town of Bordeaux the vast Quartier des Chartrons (so called from a convent of Chartreux or Carthusians), stretching down by the river-side, and once a distinct faubourg.

One of the most conspicuous, and at the same time handsomest buildings, is the *Grand Théâtre*, in the Place de la Comédie, of good Italian architecture, faced with a Corinthian portico of 12 columns, and isolated on all sides. It was erected 1780 by the architect Louis.

The **Cathedral* of St. André (M.H.) is distinguished by its 2 elegant spires, 150 ft. high, at the end of the N. transept, said to have been erected by the English, who held possession of Bordeaux for nearly 300 years, and flanking a pointed portal, enriched with statues and bas-reliefs, above which is a fine rose-window. The nave, partly in the Romanesque style, partly, towards the W. end, repaired in a bungling manner in the 15th cent., after the destruction of a part of the church by an earthquake, is destitute of aisles, and remarkable only for its great width, 56 ft., which, being out of all proportion with its height, deprives it of the chief merit and characteristic of Gothic architecture—elevation. The choir is more elevated, and in a more truly pointed style, with a triforium gallery and lofty clerestory windows; it is probably of the same age as the spires, and is also said to be by English architects. The *Sacristy* conceals the beautiful N. doorway; in it is preserved a fine ivory Crucifix, 12th cent. The *Porte Royale* is supposed to have been built by our Henry II. and Queen Eleanor. Our Richard II. was christened, and the marriage of Louis XIII. with the Infanta of Spain, Anne of Austria, was solemnized here in 1615.

This ch. has no W. façade, having been originally surrounded by houses, which are now pulled down. On the S. side is a cloister of 14th cent., having a pretty arcade.

At the E. end of the cathedral, but detached from it, is the *Tour de Peyberland*, a noble structure 200 ft. high, square below, and supported by buttresses, but gradually diminishing from its base until it terminates in a circular top. It was originally surmounted by a spire, which rose to a height of 300 ft., replaced in 1864, but unfortunately left truncated so as to serve as a pedestal for an ugly gilt colossal statue of the Virgin and Child. It is named from Pierre Berland, who rose from being the son of a labourer in Médoc to be bishop of Bordeaux; he caused it to be erected in 1430. During the Reign of Terror it was condemned to destruction; but the spire alone suffered, the rest resisting all attacks, owing to its solidity. Its handsome windows, however, were closed up, and it was converted into a shot-tower, but it has been repaired and reconsecrated as a belfry.

L'Église Ste. Croix, situated at the S.E. extremity of the town, near the

quay, between the bridge and the rly. stat., is of the 12th cent.

The handsome Romanesque W. end has been restored. The interior is of later date and inferior interest. It contains a handsome canopied tomb of an abbot, in decorated Gothic. In a chapel on the l. of the entrance, the panelled walls of which are decorated with tolerable paintings from the life of the Virgin by an old Italian artist, Vasetti, is an oblong baptismal font, bearing on 2 sides well-executed bas-reliefs of the Last Supper, with decorated ornaments. The restorations made in 1864-5 have deprived Ste. Croix of much of its mediæval character.

In descending the quay from Ste. Croix, we pass near the church of

St. Michel, situated in an irregular open space near the bridge, distinguished by its lofty detached tower. Its W. front is a superb Gothic elevation in the florid style (15th cent.). It has an elegant rose-window framed within a richly decorated arch, whose mouldings are curved back below it. Under it is a florid *porch*. Over the N. door are a pair of figures, and a striking group, representing Judas's kiss. Within the church, at the back of this portal, high above the door, is another group, of Christ, the Virgin, and St. John, of the same period. The nave and choir are in a light and airy style, but the choir and transept are the best and earliest, being of the 14th cent. The choir has a square termination to the E., and in the upper part a large six-light window, below it an arch opens, through which the usual angular apse appears in a beautiful arrangement. A longitudinal rib runs along the apex of the vault from end to end of the ch.—an English feature. There are a few good painted windows, and in the N. side of the nave, in St. Joseph's chapel, is an altar in the overladen Renaissance style. Within its niches are 3 graceful statues—the Virgin and Child, St. Catherine, and St. Barbara; and below them, arranged as a predella, some curious bas-reliefs of the 14th or early 15th cent. Near the W. end stands the elegant detached hexagonal bell-tower, height 367½ ft.; from the top is a very fine view. It was built between 1472 and 1480; the spire is modern, replacing the work damaged in 1768 by a storm. In a dry, airy chamber beneath, are shown (guardian 50 cent.) 73 human mummies. They were formerly buried in the ch.-yd. which surrounded the belfry; but shortly before the Revolution the cemetery was closed and the bodies removed, but those shown were preserved by the dry nature of the earth.

St. Seurin (St. Severin), situated near the N.W. extremity of the city, beyond the Place Dauphine in the open space called les Allées d'Amour, is remarkable for a finely carved triple S. porch, consisting of a trefoil-headed door, enriched with statues of good workmanship, well-executed draperies, with the date 1267. Over the door is the figure of Christ with 2 angels, the Virgin and St. John; on either side the 12 Apostles, the Church, and the Law or Jewish Synagogue. The W. front is modern, but is a tolerable attempt in imitation of the Romanesque style. Under the W. tower is a low, rude porch, with barrel-vault, heavy and solid, of the beginning of 12th cent., with grim capitals, one of which represents St. Seurin lying on his tomb. Within this church, on the rt.-hand or S. wall, is a curious bas-relief in a pointed arch above a doorway, now walled up, representing a pope saying mass (supposed to be Clement V., Archbishop of Bordeaux), assisted by a cardinal. On the opposite wall is another bas-relief of 7 figures in niches. Behind the high altar, are arranged the wooden seats of an old choir, excellent carving. Under the seats are numerous grotesque groups. The high altar is decorated with 14 bas-reliefs of marble, representing the legend of St. Severin, Bishop of Bordeaux in the 5th cent. On the N. side of the choir stands the *Bishop's Throne*, a carved seat of marble, under a canopy, richly sculptured, 14th cent. This church was the cathedral before St. André. Under the choir is a crypt of the 11th cent., con-

taining the tomb of St. Seurin; it has 3 aisles and barrel-vaults.

In the *Chapelle of the Lycée*, at the extremity of the Cours de Bourgogne, a modern structure, is the *monument of Montaigne*, a native of St. Michel Montaigne in Périgord, who was mayor of Bordeaux in 1553. He is represented in full armour, according to the custom of the period, laid on his back, with his hands joined in prayer.

These are the most remarkable ecclesiastical edifices of Bordeaux, but it retains still a monument of the Roman city *Burdigala*, in the fragment of an amphitheatre, consisting of 6 arches, now called **Palais Gallien*, in the Rue du Colysée, near the Jardin Public, not quite accurately, because, though possibly built in the reign of the Emp. Gallienus, it was not a palace, but a circus, capable of containing 1500 persons.

The *bridge* across the Garonne, beyond La Bastide, is one of the finest in Europe, consisting of 17 arches of stone, the walls and spandrels being brick, with stone quoins. Until 1821 the river was crossed by a ferry; and the want of a bridge had confined the city exclusively to the l. bank of the river. One of wood was begun in the time of Napoleon, but was abandoned soon after for one of stone, which was completed, 1821, by a company of shareholders. The architects were MM. Deschamps and Bilaudel.

A vaulted passage runs under the roadway, between it and the arches, for the whole length; which gives a great height of wall between the crown of the arches and the parapet.

As the French are fond of comparing this bridge with that of Waterloo, the dimensions of both are here given in English feet.

	Length.	Width.	No. of Arches.	Width of Arch.
Bordeaux	1596	49	17	87*
Waterloo	1326	40	9	118

The view of Bordeaux from the bridge is very striking. Opposite it stands the Porte de Bourgogne, erected and made into an arc de triomphe in 1807 to commemorate the birth of the Duc de B., grandson of Louis XV., 1751-55.

Bordeaux has preserved 2 of its ancient gates: one, *La Porte du Palais* or *du Cailhau*, in the Place du Palais, facing the river, originally formed an entrance to the Palace, destroyed 1800; in which the Dukes of Aquitaine and the Seneschals of England resided, and where Louis XI. established the Parliament of B.; the tower is seen on l. in going from the bridge along the Quai de Bourgogne. The other, *la Porte de l'Hôtel de Ville*, is one of the 4 towers which stood at the angles of the old Hôtel de Ville: it is surmounted by 3 turrets; the lower part dates from the 11th cent.

On the Allées de Tourny, near la Place de la Comédie, is the *Library* of more than 100,000 volumes, partly the bequest of a member of the old Parliament of Bordeaux, partly the remains of conventual libraries forfeited at the Revolution. A copy of an early edition (1588) of Montaigne's Essays with marginal notes in his own writing, which have been mutilated by putting the volume in a new and elegant binding, and the first French translation of Livy illuminated, are among its curiosities.

A fine *Jardin Public*, on the Cours or Boulevard of the same name, with large glass conservatories, has been completed behind the Place des Quinconces. In buildings opening upon it have now been installed.

1. A *Gallery of Paintings*, but, with the exception of one masterpiece by Perugino, and a painting of Palma Vecchio, they are in no wise remarkable. There are, however, some tolerable works of the French school. A collection of arms and warlike implements of all ages and epochs, inlaid fire-arms of the middle ages, celts, flint instruments from Old and New World, deserves notice.

2. *Museum of Antiquities*, containing a collection of antique fragments, chiefly Roman, found in the vicinity of Bordeaux; also parts of the marble bas-reliefs, representing the battle of

* Only the 7 central arches have this width, the rest are smaller.

Fontenoy, and the capture of Port Mahon from the English by the Duc de Richelieu, which ornamented the pedestal of the statue of Louis XV. in the Place Royale, destroyed at the Revolution.

3. *Museum of Natural History*, containing tolerable collections of shells, of the fossils of the neighbourhood of Bordeaux, and of the marbles of the Pyrenees. In the same building is an *Observatory*.

The *Bourse*, the centre of the commerce and trade of the city, is situated on the quay at the extremity of the Rue Chapeau Rouge. The merchants meet here daily, under a glass dome which covers the inner court of the building, 98 ft. long by 65 broad. On the opposite side of the Rue du Chapeau Rouge is the *Préfecture*.

There are several *Theatres* at Bordeaux: that of the Opera or *Grand Théâtre* (see above); the *Théâtre Français*; the *T. des Variétés*, near the extremity of the Rue de l'Intendance, adjoining the Place Dauphine; the *T. de l'Alhambra*, &c. &c.

Promenades.—The fine *Cours de Bourgogne*, running from the Place de Bourgogne on the Quay to the Cathedral; the *Place des Quinconces*, communicating with the *Jardin Public* by the *Cours* 30 *Juillet*, the *Allées Tourny*, &c. A continuous Boulevard under the denominations of *B. Cauderan* and *B. Johnston*, surrounds the entire city and its suburbs, extending from the Grand Rly. Stat. on the S. to that of Médoc on the N.

The great suburban burying-ground, *Cimetière de la Chartreuse*, is situated at the W. extremity of the city, in a large open space, formerly the gardens of a Carthusian Monastery; attached to it is the ch. of St. Bruno, serving as a mortuary chapel. General Moreau, who fell at the battle of Dresden, in 1813, is buried here. Near the general cemetery is that of the Protestants, where many of our countrymen lie.

The commercial importance of Bordeaux is due to its situation on a fine navigable river, where the rise and fall of tides amounts to 20 ft., in which vessels of more than 1000 tons may ride at anchor, at a distance of about 70 m. from the sea. There being no docks, and few quays, the vessels lie in the stream, and either discharge into lighters or wait for their turn at the quays. They are not moored in tiers, but lie very thick, and it is difficult to understand how collisions are avoided when the wind is strong. Bordeaux is connected by the same river, through the Canal du Midi, with the Mediterranean. Its commerce is carried on chiefly with South America and Mexico, the United States, French colonies, and Great Britain. There is a good deal of shipbuilding, the yards for that purpose being above the bridge. The principal articles of trade and exports consist in wines, known in France as vins de Bordeaux, and in England as *claret*, a name of doubtful origin. From 50,000 to 60,000 tuns of wine are exported annually. Nearly half of the best quality and highest price is sent to Great Britain. The Quartier des Chartrons, alongside the Place des Quinconces, is the focus of this trade; here the principal wine-merchants have their counting-houses and cellars.

The *Cellars of MM. Barton and Guestier*, leading bankers and wine-merchants, 35 Pavé des Chartrons, are among "the sights" of Bordeaux. They are 2 storeys in height, and commonly contain from 8000 to 9000 casks of wine, never less than 4000 or 5000.

For an account of the wines of Bordeaux see Route 74.

Among the *delicacies* furnished by the Bordeaux markets for the table are *Royans*, a species of sardines caught in autumn; *Ceps*, a sort of mushroom cooked in oil; *Muriers*, small birds something like beccaficas; and *Ortolans*, caught in August, near Agen and along the foot of the Pyrenees.

The *Café de Paris*, on the Place de la Comédie, is a much frequented Restaurant.

Consuls reside here from the chief powers of Europe and America; the British Consulate is at No. 15 Cours de Portal.

English Ch. Service, twice on Sun.

in the English Ch., No. 10 Pavé des Chartrons.

There is a rowing and sailing club (Cercle Nautique), where English amateur visitors are always made welcome.

The *Poste aux Lettres* is at No. 10 Rue Porte Dijeaux, near the Place de la Comédie.

Telegraph Office, 52 Cours de l'Intendance.

Public baths on a very extensive scale, in two fine buildings on each side of the Place des Quinconces.

Newspapers of all countries, English, French, German, Spanish, &c., may be found in abundance at the *Cercle*, opposite the theatre.

Resident English Physician, Dr. Coppinger, 43 Place Dauphine.

Paul Chaumas Gayet, bookseller, 34 Rue Fossé du Chapeau Rouge, keeps a number of topographical works, maps, &c.

Omnibuses (30 cent.) run along the quay from one end to the other, and in a direction across the town, from the river to its outskirts.

Fiacres stand for hire in the principal *places:* charging, with one horse 1 f. 50 c., with two 2 f. the course; or, by time, 1 f. 50 c. and 2 f. for the first hour, 1 f. 25 c. and 1 f. 80 c. for every hour after. These charges are by day, *i.e.* between 6 A.M. and 6 P.M.; they are increased 25 per cent. for night-work.

Railways to Paris in 11 hours, *viâ* Libourne, Angoulême, Poitiers, and Tours;—to La Teste and Arcachon;—to Bayonne by Dax, the quickest way to Pau, Route 76; by Mt. de Marsan, to Tarbes and the Pyrenees (Rte. 80);—to Périgueux and Limoges; to Agen, Montauban, Toulouse;—to Narbonne, Cette, Marseilles, and the towns on the Mediterranean; — through the Médoc district to Margaux and the mouth of the Gironde (Rte. 74).

Ferry steamers across the Garonne every 5 minutes, from the Quai Place des Quinconces.

Steamers on the Garonne.—Down the river, to Blaye, from which conveyances to Saintes and Pauillac daily, starting from the quay abreast of the rostral columns; to Royan in 7 hours. Rly. thence to Saujon, and diligence to Rochefort (29 m.) in 4 hours.

Up the river, to Langon, Marmande, and Agen (Rte. 73), starting from the quay above the bridge; but it will take 12 or 14 hours to reach Agen by water, and only 2¾ by rail.

Environs of Bordeaux.

An excursion by rly. to *La Teste* and *Arcachon*, 35 m. in 1¼ hr. (Rte. 76), will give the traveller some notion of the nature of the sandy district called Les Landes, and to visit the fashionable watering-place of Arcachon.

The banks of the Garonne below Bordeaux, and the *wine district of Médoc*, which produces the claret, are described in Rte. 74.

The Garonne above Bordeaux, in Rte. 73.

Excursions may be made to the *Château de la Brède*, the birthplace of Montesquieu, 2 hours' drive (see above), and to *Blanquefort* (Rte. 74), the castle of the Black Prince, 7 m.

Passages in the History of Bordeaux.

The earliest mention of Bordeaux is by Strabo, who calls it Βουρδιγαλα, under which it was known to the Romans, and described in some verses by Ausonius, who was born here in the 4th cent.:—

"Impia jamdudum condemno silentia, quod te,
O patria, insignem Baccho, fluviisque, virisque,
Non inter primas memorem. * * * *
Burdigala est natale solum, clementia cœli
Mitis ubi, et riguæ larga indulgentia terræ;
Ver longum, brumæque breves, juga frondea subsunt.
Fervent æquoreos imitata fluenta meatus."
AUSON. *Claræ Urbes.*

Hadrian made it the capital of 2nd Aquitania.

Bordeaux belonged for nearly 300 years to the kings of England, who obtained it with the duchy of Aquitaine by the marriage of Eleanor of Guienne, sole heiress of the last native duke, with Henry II., in 1152. This inheritance became the fruitful cause of strife between England and France for centuries.

The Black Prince, having been in-

vested by his father with the government of Guienne, resided many years at Bordeaux. Hence he set forth on that adventurous foray into the centre of France which led to the battle of Poitiers. Here he held a brilliant court, to which Don Pedro the Cruel repaired, when driven out of Spain, with his two daughters, who were here married to the English Princes John of Gaunt and the Earl of Cambridge.

Here the Black Prince's son, Richard II., was born, and surnamed from his birthplace Richard of Bordeaux. At this time, according to Froissart, the English sent every year a fleet of 200 vessels to Bordeaux to be freighted with wine.

The Bordelais retained their affections for the English long after the downfall of our rule in the rest of France, in the reign of Henry VI.; revolting against Charles VII. to receive within their walls the valiant Talbot (1453), but his speedy defeat and death forced them to re-submit to the French monarchy.

Bordeaux was the seat of one of the provincial Parliaments of France, or high court of justice, composed of laymen and ecclesiastics, who registered the royal decrees and transmitted them to the lower courts. George Buchanan was sometime professor in the college de Guienne here.

One of the most momentous events of the civil war of the Fronde was the siege of Bordeaux, undertaken by the royal army, with Mazarin, young Louis XIV., and his mother, at its head, while the city held out for the Princesse de Condé, the Dukes of la Rochefoucauld and Bouillon, at the head of their vassals, assisted by the townspeople and backed by the Parliament of Bordeaux. The heroic wife of the Great Condé, having escaped from the clutches of the Cardinal, who already held her husband in prison, and wished to transfer her and her son to like durance, traversed the country from Chantilly, and after a series of adventures and escapes threw herself into this city, where the interest of the Condés was strong. Her beauty, eloquence, and forlorn position enlisted in her favour the enthusiasm of the magistrates and townspeople, and upon her persuasion they agreed to admit her allies and resist the force of Mazarin. She captivated all hearts, and became as it were queen of Bordeaux, then the second city of the kingdom; and Condé, while shut up in Vincennes, learned with surprise that his feeble princess was acting the part of a general, conducting the defence of a town, and exposing her life on the walls. The defence was conducted with such obstinacy, that, at the end of several weeks, Mazarin, having made little progress, was happy to offer terms to the leaders of the Fronde. The citizens of Bordeaux were right glad to be released from the blockade just at the approach of the vintage, for their warlike enthusiasm had begun to cool at the prospect of being shut out from their vineyards.

A great impulse was given to the French Revolution by the inhabitants of Bordeaux. At the beginning of the reign of Louis XVI. the Parliament of Bordeaux, having refused to ratify the edicts of the king, was banished to Libourne, and in consequence contributed largely to the clamour raised in this part of France for assembling of the States-general. Many of the persons of greatest eloquence and talent sent as members to the Legislative Assembly, including Vergniaud, Gaudet, Gensonné, Ducos, &c., were returned by the department of the Gironde, whence the party which they composed took the denomination *Girondins:* but having themselves contributed to the evils of the Revolution, they were swallowed up by the monster they had created, and sacrificed for the most part by the stronger party of the Montagne, which succeeded them in the Convention. Bordeaux had a Reign of Terror of its own; the guillotine was erected in the square near the centre of the town, called Place Dauphine, but then named Place de Justice, and some of its best citizens were executed. No less than 500 persons suffered death here, whom either envy of their merits or cupidity for their wealth, caused to be con-

demned under the false charge of conspiracy against the sovereignty of the people.

On March 8th, 1814, 2 divisions of the British army, under Marshal Beresford, marched upon Bordeaux; where the presence of the Duchesse d'Angoulême, who had thrown herself into the town to revive the dormant spirit of loyalty towards her family, and the intrigues of the Duc d'Angoulême, contrary to the advice and wishes of the Duke of Wellington, caused the premature proclamation of the Bourbons by the royalist mayor; the Duke having expressly declared that "he could not interfere to produce any declaration in favour of the Bourbons, nor to support their pretensions by military force."

The representatives of the Government of National Defence retired here from Tours the 10th Dec. 1870, on the approach of the German armies, and the first meetings of the National Assembly were held in the Grand Théâtre, and the preliminaries of peace there voted.

ROUTE 74.

DESCENT OF THE GARONNE—BORDEAUX TO LA TOUR DE CORDOUAN — THE WINE DISTRICT OF MÉDOC. RAIL.

100 kilom. = 62 Eng. m.

Steamers daily to Blaye and Pauillac—4 or 5 times a week to Royan; fare, 8 and 15 frs.

Railway (63 m., 4 trains daily in 3½ hrs.) along the l. bank of the Gironde to the mouth of the estuary. It runs through the midst of the Médoc District, passing

5 m. *Blanquefort* Stat., whose picturesque *Castle*, a favourite residence of the Black Prince, still preserves part of its outer circuit walls, round towers, and fosse, and some of its apartments. The leopards of England are only half effaced from the walls.

10 m. *Margaux* Stat., about ½ m. from the Château (see below).

14 m. *Pauillac* Stat. (see below).

30 m. *Le Verdon* terminus.

Bordeaux Wines.

The long tongue of land stretching N. from Bordeaux, between the sea on the one hand and the Garonne and Gironde on the other, is called *Médoc* (*in medio aquæ*), because nearly surrounded by water. It is the N. termination of the extensive district of sand-hills and sand-plains, called Les Landes, extending from Bayonne north, which changes to a bank of gravel on approaching the l. bank of the Garonne, and forms a narrow strip nowhere more than 1 or 2 m. broad, raised from 50 to 80 ft. above the river, which is planted with vines, and contains some of the most precious vineyards in the world. The transition is abrupt from this gravel bank near the river to the mere Landes or sandy waste running to the W. and S. of it, producing nothing but firs, furze, and heath. The soil of Médoc is a light gravel, and indeed, on the spots where some of the best wine is produced, it appears a mere heap of white quartz, rolled pebbles, about the size of an egg, mixed with sand. The best wine is not produced where the vine-bush is most luxuriant, but on the lighter soils, where it is actually stunted—in ground fit for nothing else; in fact, where even weeds disdain often to grow. Yet this stony soil is congenial to the vine, retaining the sun's heat about its roots after sunset, so that, in the language of the country, it works (travaille) in maturing its precious fruit as much by night as by day. The accumulation of sand and pebbles, of which this soil is composed, is apparently the detritus of the Pyrenean rocks, brought down by the

torrents tributary to the Garonne and other great rivers, and deposited in former ages on the borders of the sea. At the depth of 2 or 3 feet from the surface occurs a bed of indurated conglomerate, called *alios*, which requires to be broken up before the vine will grow, as it would impede the penetration of the roots. The vine is trained exclusively in the fashion of espaliers, fastened to horizontal laths, attached to upright posts at a height not exceeding 1½ or 2 feet from the ground, running in an uninterrupted line from one end of the vineyard to the other. Manure is scarcely used in the culture, only a little fresh mould is laid over the roots from time to time; but the plough is driven between the vines four times every season, alternately laying open and covering its roots: this is performed by oxen, who, with steady and unvarying pace, thread the rows without treading on the plants. Manure destroys the fine quality of the wine, and moisture or standing water is most injurious to the plant. The vine begins to produce 5 years after being planted, and continues productive sometimes when 200 years old, provided its roots have found a congenial soil to insinuate their fibres, which they sometimes do to a distance of 40 or 50 ft., when the soil is dry and deep enough to protect them from the sun. The wines are classed into growths (*crus*), according to their excellence, and only a very small part of the strip of land before mentioned is capable of producing the "premiers crus;" indeed so capricious is the vine, that within a few yards of the finest vineyards it degenerates at once. The following list will show the classification of Bordeaux wines, or *clarets* as we call them in England (though whence the name, or what its meaning, are unknown in Médoc), together with the average quantity of each produced in one season. The tun, or *tonneau*, contains 4 hogsheads.

First Growths.	Château Margaux	140—160	*Tonneaux.*
	Château Laffitte	120	
	Château Latour	100	
	Haut Brion	60— 80	

The last is properly a vin de Grave, grown on the Garonne above Bordeaux, yet is classed with Médoc wines; it is less in repute now than formerly.

Second Growths.	Mouton (Laffitte)	120—146	*Tuns.*
	Léoville, the best of the wines of St. Julien	145—186	
	Rauzan (Margaux)	75— 95	

Gruau Laroze, Pichon Longueville, Durfort, Degorse, Lascombe, Cos-Destournelle, in all about 800 tuns.

It is needless to enumerate those of 3rd, 4th, and 5th rate growths, many of which are produced in the vicinity of the first-rate vineyards, at the villages or in the communes of Margaux, Laffitte, Latour, without partaking in their excellences. The goodness of a season will sometimes give an excellence to second-class wines, while in bad years those of first-class sink to mediocrity, and are not fit for exporting to England, but go to Holland, or are retained in France. England consumes more than one-half of the premiers crus, and very little of inferior sorts; Russia takes a good deal, Paris little of the best; Holland is the great mart for wines of second quality; and the third-rate sorts, or vins ordinaires, are chiefly used in France. In respect of quantity, Germany appears to absorb the greatest amount, Holland next, and then Great Britain. An erroneous notion prevails in England that clarets are prepared for the English market by a certain admixture of brandy. This is not the case; brandy would destroy the wine. A mixture does take place to adapt the wines to the English palate; but they are doctored with strong-bodied (*corsés*) Rhône wines, and chiefly with Hermitage, the principal consumption of which is for this purpose. The practice of mixing is very general. The characteristic of the good wines of Bordeaux is their aroma or bouquet; of spirit they have little, and will distil away into nothing, yet the aroma will be retained and penetrate even through the Rhône wine, when it is judiciously added. The average price of a hogshead (*barrique*) of genuine wine of first growth, in the cellar of the first

houses at Bordeaux, was 60*l.*, and the carriage, duty, bottling, &c., will be another 5*l.* A first-growth wine of a fine vintage is scarcely to be had at a less price; indeed, the whole produce of Château Margaux has been sold on the spot for 1000 francs the hogshead, in the case of a first-rate vintage. The price has, however, risen considerably of late years. Very great skill is shown, and much experience required, in the making of the wine, in the compounding of various growths and qualities, and in the preservation of it: a promising vintage often disappoints expectations, while a bad one sometimes turns out excellent; indeed, all that can be said of the premiers crus is, that they are the wines which most often succeed.

The Garonne below Bordeaux is a fine broad tidal river, but very much charged with mud, having few features of interest, its banks being chiefly low, while an intervening fringe of marsh and meadow land, grown over with willows, separates the river from the vineyards, little of which can be seen from the deck of the steamer.

Nothing can be finer than the view of the long crescent quay of Bordeaux, and the broad river crowded with shipping, many of them 3-masted vessels, as the steamer casts off from the quay, opposite the rostral columns, and skirts the Faubourg des Chartrons.

rt. *Lormont* is a picturesque eminence, covered with wood and vineyards, interspersed with some neat country-houses on its top and below its steep side. In a recess under the hill stands the village, with a domed church, surmounted by a château.

rt. Below *Montferrand*, a village hid by poplars, is a large *Château*, once the residence of the Count de Peyronnet, one of the ministers of Charles X. who signed the fatal ordonnances of July 1830.

rt. The tongue of land between the Garonne and Dordogne, called Entre Deux Mers, which produces a vast quantity of wines of inferior quality, draws to a termination at the low point called Bec d'Ambés. The union of the two rivers forms the broad estuary of the *Gironde*, whence the department is named. The revolutionary monsters of the Mountain, after overwhelming in 1793 their antagonists the Girondins, swamped even the name of the department, which for several months bore that of "Ambés." A long line of low hills, faced towards the water with cliffs, lines the l. bank of the Gironde and Dordogne. Looking up the Dordogne, you perceive, on an eminence, *Bourg*, a town of 3855 Inhab., where Louis XIV., when a child, resided with his mother, Anne of Austria, for nearly a year (1649-50), during the siege of Bordeaux. Mazarin, in order to superintend the operations and watch the leaders of the Fronde within the city, had repaired in person to the S., dragging with him the King, the Regent, and the Court. The extensive vineyards around Bourg produced the wines (claret) esteemed the best in the district 200 years ago, before the cultivation of the vine in Médoc had commenced, which does not date farther back than 250 years.

rt. The steamer stops to set down or take up passengers at the *Pain de Sucre*, a landing-place at the mouth of the Dordogne, close under the Bec d'Ambés, and about 1½ m. below Bourg. Two large islands here stand in the middle of the Gironde.

l. Nearly abreast of the Pain de Sucre a glimpse may be obtained of the mansion of *Château Margaux*, situated some distance inland: it is an Italian villa, the handsomest in Médoc, and belongs to the heirs of the Spanish banker d'Aguado, though rarely inhabited, owing to the malaria which prevails around it. It stands in the midst of the vineyards producing the celebrated wine of Château Margaux, the most esteemed growth of Médoc. The grape which yields it is small and poor to the taste, with a flavour slightly resembling that of black currants. The Château is about ½ m. from the village and rly. stat. of Margaux, which abounds in neat white-washed villas, seated in little gardens, amidst acacia hedges and trellised

vines. It is about 20 m. from Bordeaux. At Delas is a tolerable *Inn*.

rt. The yellow cliffs along the river-side are pierced to form cellars, in which is deposited the wine grown above them: and for a considerable extent near Gauriac they are excavated in quarries of building-stone. At the base of the cliffs are several small villages.

rt. *Blaye*. Stat. (*Rly.* to *St. Mariens*, on the line from Saintes to Coutras for Libourne, Rte. 63A). *Inn:* H. du Médoc. The dead walls and gloomy-looking modern bastions of the citadel of Blaye are seen projecting over the river at a height considerably above it. In the midst of them stands a fragment of the old feudal fortress, whose towers may be seen surmounting the turfed ramparts. This citadel was chosen as the prison of the Duchesse de Berri, who was confined here in a double sense after her capture at Nantes, having been brought to bed of a daughter in 1833. After a detention of 7 months she was allowed to retire to Naples. The body of Roland the Brave was, according to tradition, transported hither from Roncevaux by Charlemagne, and interred in the *Church* of *St. Romain*, with his sword *Durandal* at his head, and his famous horn of ivory, with which he had awakened the echoes of Fuentarabia, at his feet. The body was afterwards transported to the ch. of St. Sernin, at Bordeaux.

Opposite Blaye several islands have been formed in the middle of the river by the deposits brought down by the Dordogne and Garonne, and are constantly increasing. On one of them is planted the little fort *du Pâté*, so called from its round shape. It crosses its fire with that of the fortress of Blaye on the rt. bank, and of Fort Médoc on the l., and thus commands the passage of the Gironde.

To the N. of Margaux the vines decline in quality; and it is not until after an interval of several miles of inferior vineyards that we reach others, producing wine of reputation, in the vicinity of

l. Beycheville, lying within the commune of *St. Julien*, a name of note on account of the wine grown in it. The *Château de Beycheville*, situated on the height in the midst of valuable vineyards, is the seat of M. Guestier, one of the first wine-merchants of Bordeaux.

Here begin some of the most renowned vineyards of Médoc, which lie crowded together in almost uninterrupted succession, within a narrow space, stretching about 6 m. N. of Beycheville.

About 1½ m. off is *Château Léoville*, which produces one of the best second growths, nearly equalling the first growths. The estate is divided between our countryman Mr. Barton and M. de Las Cases. In the same commune is the vineyard of *La Rose*, a prime second growth; and in the adjoining one of St. Lambert is that of *Château Latour*, yielding a well-known wine, of the finest quality. The estate, which does not exceed 330 acres, was sold a few years ago for 60,000*l*.

l. *Pauillac*. Stat. (*Inn:* H. de France, clean. A carriage can be obtained of the landlord at a moderate price to drive round the chief vineyards), a small port, just beyond which is the *château* of *Brane-Mouton*, belonging to M. Nathaniel Rothschild, and adjoining this, and about 1½ m. inland, is the vineyard of *Château Laffitte*, producing one of the three best wines of Bordeaux. The farmhouse is a small gabled edifice, standing on an elevated terrace, and surmounted by 3 little towers. It is the property of Baron Rothschild, who purchased it in 1868 for 180,000*l*., though the vineyard does not yield more than 400 hogsheads yearly. Some of the wines lately sold at the fabulous price of 121 frs. (4*l*. 17*s*.) a bottle. The region of good wines extends N. as far as Lesparre, but the wines are far inferior to those of the commune of Pauillac. The best vineyards are in the hands of foreigners. At Château Loudenne the enterprising and advertising firm of Messrs. Gilbey have established a dépôt for the direct export of their clarets to England.

The aspect of the vine district of Mé-

doc is that of an undulating country, slightly raised above the Garonne, affording here and there peeps of the river between the gentle hills and shallow gullies which intersect it. It abounds in marshes and stagnant pools, which render it unhealthy, so that the châteaux which occur in it are inhabited only during a small part of the year by their proprietors. Yet the district is populous, a group of cottages being attached to almost every vineyard, and inhabited by the peasants who cultivate it. The vineyards are open fields; even those of greatest value being for the most part unprovided with walls, or even hedges, in order to avoid the loss of any space of ground which must be left round the margin to allow the plough to turn. When the grapes begin to ripen, a temporary fence is formed round the vines, of twisted boughs interwoven with furze, to keep out the dogs, which are most destructive consumers of grapes. Further to deter both bipeds and quadrupeds from committing depredations, armed guards are posted on the watch, day and night, while streaks of paint, and bits of white paper stuck upon poles, announce that the vineyard is strewn with poisoned sausages, and that the grapes themselves are smeared with some deleterious mixture. The vines are planted in quincunx order on ridges (about 3 ft. apart): they are trained to espaliers, and not allowed to rise more than 2 ft. above the ground. In the best vineyards they barely cover the soil, but allow the singular mass of pebbles, of which it almost exclusively consists, to appear between the rows. The growth of the vine is confined within a narrow line of demarcation, and the transition is most abrupt from the most precious land to an uncultivated sandy desert. The distance of a few feet makes all the difference. The vintage takes place in the month of September, and it is then that Médoc presents a scene of bustle, activity, and rejoicing. The proprietors then repair hither with their friends and families to superintend the proceedings and make merry: *vignerons* pour in from the l. bank of the Gironde, to assist in the gathering. Busy crowds of men, women, and children sweep the vineyard from end to end, clearing all before them like bands of locusts, while the air resounds with their songs and laughter. The utmost care is employed by the pickers to remove from the bunches all defective, dried, mouldy, or unripe grapes. Every road is thronged with carts filled with high-heaped tubs, which the labouring oxen are dragging slowly to the *Cuvier de pressoir* (pressing-trough). This is placed usually in a lofty outhouse, resembling a barn, whence issue sounds of still louder merriment, and a scene presents itself sufficiently singular to the stranger. Upon a square wooden trough (*pressoir*) stand 3 or 4 men with bare legs all stained with purple juice, dancing and treading down the grapes as fast as they are thrown in, to the tunes of a violin. The labour of constantly stamping down the fruit is most fatiguing, and without music would get on very slowly; a fiddler, therefore, forms part of every wine-grower's establishment; and as long as the instrument pours forth its merry strains, the treaders continue their dance in the gore of the grape, and the work proceeds diligently. The next process is to strip (*égrapper*) the broken grapes and skins from the stalks, with an instrument called *dérapoir*, and to pour the juice and skins into vats to ferment. The skin rises to the top, and the wine is drawn off into hogsheads as soon as fermentation is carried to the proper extent, in judging of which the utmost experience is required, as on it depends much of the quality of the vintage.

At *Trompe-Loup* is the Lazaretto, where vessels perform quarantine.

l. The cultivation of the vine ceases to the N. of Castillon, and the extreme point of Médoc, towards the mouth of the Gironde, consists of rich pasture-land, famed for its breed of cattle, and some corn-fields. It lies on a level with the surface of the sea, and was redeemed from the condition

of marsh by a colony of Flemings, brought to France by Henri IV., who surrounded it with sea-dikes like their own country.

rt. *Mortagne.* Diligence to *Saintes* Stat. (Rte. 63).

rt. *Royan* (*Inns:* H. de Bordeaux, best: H. d'Orléans) is a small seaport town in the Dépt. of the Charente, at the opening of the Gironde into the Atlantic, 27 m. from Rochefort. It is a station of pilots, and is much resorted to for sea-bathing. *Rly.* by Saujon to Pons (see Rte. 63). *Steamer* to Bordeaux in summer, in about 7 hours. *Semussac* on the N., and the *Pointe de Grave* on the S.; upon the latter is the village of *Le Verdon*, the terminus of the rly.

On an isolated rock outside the mouth of the Gironde, which is beset with dangerous sandbanks, rises the lighthouse called *La Tour de Cordouan*, whose beacon guides mariners entering or quitting the river. It is a circular structure of three storeys, the central one being domed like a church, from the midst of which rises a sort of pepper-box turret. It was designed in the reign of Henri II. by *Louis de Foix*, one of the architects of the Escurial, 1611, who is said to have died here, and to have been buried within it. It replaced a lighthouse founded by the English 1362-71, while the Black Prince was governor of Guienne.

ROUTE 76.

BORDEAUX TO BAYONNE—(LA TESTE AND ARCACHON)—RAIL.

Bordeaux.	Kil.	Miles.
Lamothe Junct. . . .	40	25
Morcenx Junct. . . .	109	68
Dax	148	92
Bayonne	198	124

4 trains daily, in 4 to 7 hrs.

Bordeaux is described in Rte. 73.

Immediately after quitting the station, in the *Cours St. Jean*, the line to Agen, Toulouse, and Cette diverges l., and we enter on the monotonous sandy district extending S., known by the name *Les Grandes Landes.* (See below.)

4 m. *Pessac* Stat., before reaching which, pass on rt. *Haut Brion*, celebrated for its wines. Pope Clement V. owned one of the vineyards.

3·m. *Gazinet* Stat. Some traces of the ancient Roman road to *Levade.* We here enter the district of the Landes.

18 m. *Lamothe* Junct. Stat.—Buffet.

[Branch rly. W. to 10 m. Arcachon, by

8 m. *La Teste de Buch* Stat. (*Inn:* H. du Chemin de Fer); Pop. 4259. No trace remains of the Castle of the "Captaux de Buch," in the middle ages leading captains of Aquitaine. Froissart describes the battle between one of them, who was in the service of Charles le Mauvais King of Navarre, and Duguesclin, in 1364. La Teste has been saved from being swallowed up by the moving sandhills by the planting of the fir upon them, and it has become a prosperous place since the rly. was opened.

2 m. **Arcachon** Stat. (Buffet) (Pop. 2085). (*Inns:* Grand Hotel, large and well-managed, facing the S., open all the year round, board and lodging in winter months, 10, 11, and 12 frs. a day, according to the floors; H. Legallais, with baths; H. de l'Europe. Most of the hotels are closed after the autumn. Plenty of furnished apartments and Restaurants.) Arcachon is a pretty and peculiar bathing village, rapidly increasing, on the S. shore of the salt lake, called Bassin d'Arcachon, 68 m. in circumference, which is connected with the sea by a narrow opening on the S.W. It is lined with broad and smooth sands, admirably suited for sea-bathing, and encircled by downs (*dunes*) of sand covered with fir-woods, extending S. 40 m. nearly as far as Bayonne, which shelter it from inclement blasts from the S. and E. It is much resorted to in winter by invalids suffering from pulmonary or nervous complaints, but in summer

principally by bathers in search of amusement. The only old building is the *Chapelle*, lined with ex-votos of the fishermen; there were about half-a-dozen fishermen's huts until 1854, when it suddenly became a fashionable resort, the population averaging 15,000 in the bathing season, and 5000 permanently. The village consists of one straight street, 1½ m. long, skirting the "Dunes" and backed by pine-woods, whose aromatic exhalations are thought to be healing to weak chests. The houses are mostly of wood; about 150 in the style of a Swiss châlet; others, like an Indian bungalow, have no upper storey. There are carriages and horses for excursions, but the principal amusement is bathing. There are no bathing-machines, but before every house on the shore one or more sheds, like sentry-boxes, in which bathers change their attire. Ladies and gentlemen wear fancy bathing-dresses, and in them parade the sands at all hours, sometimes in the water, walking about and talking to their friends.

Ascend the mound called *Le Buet*, for the view over the Atlantic and the ocean of firs on the S.; a more extensive one still from the top of the mast, which can be reached by a convenient stair, on paying 20 centimes. An excursion to the *Lighthouse* on the other side of the "Bassin" will afford a fine view seawards; *it can be best made in a boat, charge for going and returning*, 6 frs.

English Ch. Service at 11.30 every Sunday at the French Protestant ch. whilst an English ch. is building.

Mr. H. Pickering, a Dublin Licentiate of Medicine, practises here in summer.

The Casino, a Moresque building, with domes and minarets, contains a fair restaurant, subscription reading, balls and concert rooms, and library.

There are extensive *Oyster* parks, and the value of the fishery now carried on, of which Arcachon is the headquarters, is estimated at over 1,500,000 f. About 1300 fishermen are employed; and soles and red and grey mullet are plentiful in the basin, with an occasional take of sardines, locally known as the royan. Small boats and steamers are engaged in the trade, and the mullet spearing by torchlight is picturesque.]

Returning to Lamothe—on entering the singular district of the *Landes*, fields give place to heaths and pine-woods, interspersed with a few patches of barley and a little maize; for these crops will grow wherever manure and industry can be employed upon the soil. The surface of the ground is of a dull grey or ash-coloured sand. A few flocks of lean, ill-conditioned sheep wander over this waste, tended by shepherds renowned for walking on stilts (*échasses*). By the aid of these they are not only enabled to stalk over the prickly bushes, and avoid the inconvenience of filling their shoes with sand, but they gain an elevation not afforded by the even surface of the ground, from which they can overlook their flock, and prevent their sheep straying. They carry a long pole, which, when stuck into the ground, forms a sort of support, and on it they can rest and knit stockings all the day through. A stranger, unprepared for the sight, would have some difficulty in explaining the nature of the extraordinary tripod thus formed; and the sheepskins worn by the peasant would not diminish the mystery. The peasants of the Landes are all accustomed to the use of stilts, and with a very slight exertion, and not a very quick movement, will clear the country, by the aid of these wooden legs, at a pace which would keep a horse at a smart trot. "The inhabitants are rather diminutive in size, and not a very long-lived race. They endure severe privations—among them, the want of water. Even the lower animals must here change their nature to accommodate themselves to the soil. I saw large flocks of ducks which, I was assured, had never seen a pond!"—*F.*

The *Fir* (*Pinus maritima*) is peculiarly at home among the Landes, and flourishes in robust vigour. Nearly ⅓ of the Dépt. des Landes is covered with dark forests (*Pignadas*) of this tree, all planted in shifting sands

within the last 70 years, at the instigation in the first instance of M. Bremontier, Inspecteur des Ponts et Chaussées. Owing to the value of the timber and of the resin which the tree produces, and the facility with which it is grown, large districts have been planted by the Government. To obtain the resin, a slice is cut off the bark, and a hole made in the ground beneath, into which the resin flows in the liquid state of turpentine from the incision, and is thence collected by the workman; when the incision begins to heal, a fresh incision is made above it, and so on to a great height, and then another parallel range of incisions is commenced. The old trees will be seen thus converted into fluted columns. One of the chief drawbacks is the want of good water, all the streams of the Landes being brackish. Numerous schemes have been proposed for reclaiming them, and the late Emperor had seriously undertaken the task.

The rly. through the Landes was made by the English engineers Conder and Goode. The workpeople during its progress were lodged in tents and in a sort of travelling village, placed on trucks pushed forward on the rails day by day as fast as the line advanced. Food and water were sent to them a distance of 40 or 50 m.

Caudos, *Lugos*, *Ychoux*, *Labouheyre*, and *Solferino* or Sabres, are stations between Lamothe and Morcenx—the highest point of the line is at Sabres Stat.; there are roads from most to villages bearing the same names on the edge of this sandy desert.

[About 10 m. E. of Sabres, in the midst of the sandy Landes, is an obscure hamlet, called *Labrit* or *Albret*. It was the cradle of the Sires d'Albret, one of the oldest families of France, from whom sprang Henri IV., the illustrious son of Jeanne d'Albret.]

43 m. *Morcenx* Junct. Stat. (Buffet good.)

[Here a *railway* branches off on l. to Mont de Marsan, Tarbes, and Bagnères (Rte. 80), travellers to which change carriages here by some of the trains.]

16 m. *Laluque* Stat. Cultivation recommences near here, and the snowy peaks of the Pyrenees may be descried in clear weather.

4 m. *Buglose* Stat. This village, formerly called Pouy, was the birthplace of the philanthropic founder of the order of Sœurs de la Charité, and of foundling hospitals, St. Vincent de Paul. When a boy he tended his father's flock in the sandy heaths near the Lazarist convent. On the site of the cottage in which he was born a small chapel was begun, but remains unfinished. Here is a miracle-working statue of the Virgin; the pilgrims halt to offer up their prayers under the *oak-tree* of St. Vincent.

The rly. approaches the bank of the Adour shortly before reaching

4 m. **Dax** Junct. Stat. Omnibus from rly. (*Inns:* H. Figaro; H. de l'Europe, in the Faubourg Sablar; H. de France, in the town; H. Thermes de Dax, pension and baths), a town of 9469 Inhab., which lies on the l. bank of the Adour, about 1 m. from the stat. on the rt. A handsome stone bridge connects it with the Faubourg of Sablar. The name of Dax is derived from its *hot springs* (de aquis), which are one of the curiosities of La Guienne, and doubtless induced that bath-loving people the Romans to found here their settlement of *Aquæ Augustæ Tarbellicæ*. They issue nearly in the centre of the town, and are received in a large square basin inclosed with porticoes, whence rise such clouds of steam as in a frosty morning to envelop all the place. The temperature is 158° Fahr. The water is nearly tasteless. There are several Establishments of baths, both of hot water and of hot mud (*boue thermale*), which are very efficacious. The *old fortifications*, resembling Roman masonry, but said to be a mediæval imitation of it, existed until recently more complete than anywhere else in France. They inclosed a nearly square area, measuring 440 yards by 330, flanked by 40 semicircular towers, surrounded by a moat on all sides except the N.W., where flows the Adour. The demolition of this curious and perfect specimen of masonry was commenced by

the townsfolk in 1858, but has been stopped. The *Castle*, a building of the 14th century, now a barrack, occupies the angle between the stone bridge and the old wooden one. The *Ch. of St. Paul* (M. H.) is of the 17th cent.

In the *Mairie* is a good collection of the beautifully preserved fossil shells from the tertiary strata near Dax, and other curiosities.

There are large deposits of *rock salt* near Dax. They belong to an English company.

At *St. Paul de Dax*, 1½ m. distant, is a *Church* of 15th cent., with a Romanesque apse of 12th, furnished with recessed seats for the chapter, covered with paintings representing subjects from the Old and New Testaments.

Railway. Dax to Pau, 51 Eng. m., and the Pyrenees (Rte. 78.)

The rly. traverses numerous forests of cork-oaks (*Quercus suber*), which, being stripped of their flaky bark, have a singular effect from the dark brown colour of their naked trunks. A new skin speedily repairs the loss of the old.

9 m. *Saubusse* Stat.: on the rt. bank of the Adour.

6 m. *St. Vincent* Stat.

The Pyrenean range now forms a grand feature in the landscape. It is not unlike some views of the Grampians, in which sharp peaks here and there surmount intervening round-backed hills: the most conspicuous and picturesque peaks seen from hereabouts are La Rhune in France, and the Quatre Couronnes in Spain.

The rly. approaches within 1 m. of the Adour, near its entrance into the sea, through moving sand-dunes, now rendered solid by plantations of fir-trees.

13 m. *Le Boucau* Stat., a small town at the mouth of the Adour, furnishes pilots for entering the port.

The rly., ascending the rt. bank of the river, in view of the Allées Marines on the l. bank, passes under the walls of the *Citadel*, and not far from *Le Cimetière Anglais*.

2 m. **Bayonne** Junct. Stat. (Buffet), on the rt. bank of the Adour, omnibus from rly. (*Inns*: H. des Ambassadeurs, good; H. du Commerce; H. St. Étienne, fallen off and very dear; H. St. Martin; H. de la Bilbaïna; H. du Panier Fleuri, cheap and clean, commercial.)

Post Office, Place du Chateaux Vieux; *Telegraph Office*, Place du Réduit.

Bayonne is entered by the Faubourg of St. Esprit. The town itself is reached by a stone bridge over the Adour, and, after crossing the angular strip of land between the rivers, by another of stone and iron over the Nive.

This first-class fortress (Pop. 27,200), commanding the passes of the W. Pyrenees, and one of the two high-roads leading from Spain into France, is in an agreeable situation at the junction of the Nive with the Adour, and is divided into 3 parts by these rivers, which are lined with quays and shipping. The suburb St. Esprit, on the rt. bank of the Adour, has a population of 7000 Inhab., among whom are 2000 Jews, descendants of those expelled at different times from Spain. On an eminence rising above this suburb, just at the lower end of it and commanding with its batteries the town, both the rivers, and the plain to the N., stands the *Citadel*, the most formidable of the works laid out by Vauban, and greatly strengthened, especially since 1814, when it formed the key to an intrenched camp of Marshal Soult, and was invested by a detachment of the army of the Duke of Wellington, but not taken, the peace having put a stop to the siege after some bloody encounters. The last of these, a dreadful and useless expenditure of human life, took place after peace was declared, and the British forces put off their guard in consequence. They were thus entirely taken by surprise by a sally of the garrison, made early on the morning of April 14th; which, though repulsed, was attended with the loss of 830 men to the British, and by the capture of their commander, Sir John Hope, whose horse was shot under him, and himself wounded. The French attack was supported by the fire of their gunboats on the river,

which opened indiscriminately on friend and foe. 910 of the French were killed. Admission to the citadel is obtained by an order from the commanding officer; but, except to a military man, it possesses nothing of interest. Steep approaches lead up to it, deep fosse ssurround it; nearly vertical walls, 40 feet high, and numerous bastions, flank and enfilade every access to it; visitors are not allowed to mount on the ramparts.

Bayonne Proper occupies a triangular space between the two rivers, and stretches for a considerable distance up the bank of the Nive, which is crossed by 3 bridges. Many of the streets have a half Spanish character from the arcades running under the houses. The handsomest quarter of the town is that adjoining the Theatre, consisting of tall houses—the Place d'Armes, Rue du Gouvernement, where are situated the principal hotels.

The only building of consequence is the *Cathedral* (M. H.), recently restored. Externally it is ugly, but within a fine lofty ch. in the best Pointed Gothic of the 14th cent., with choir and apse a cent. earlier, and very short transepts. The arms of England are still visible on the vault. The cloisters behind, in the florid style, nearly the largest in France, and the S.E. portal of the transept, deserve notice. From the top of its tower there is a good *view* of the distant Pyrenees, of the town, rivers, and citadel, and of the spot a little below it, at the extremity of the long avenue of trees, where a part of the British army under Sir John Hope crossed by a bridge of boats furnished from the fleet of Admiral Penrose, and transported with much difficulty over the bar, Feb. 23-27, 1814, in order to invest the citadel.

The Duke of Wellington's Despatches show with what severe discipline he prevented the troops, Spanish and English, under his command, imitating the cruel injuries which the French army had inflicted on Spain and other countries invaded by them.

The construction of the bridge over the Adour below Bayonne, and the passage of the Allies across it, display the genius of Wellington in conceiving, combining, and executing an operation deemed impossible by his opponents; and is styled by Colonel Napier "a stupendous undertaking, which will always rank among the prodigies of war." The impediments consisted in the breadth of the river, the rapidity of its current, the height to which the tide rises (14 feet), the difficulty of procuring and transporting the materials of the bridge: since, if sent by land, through bad and difficult roads, they must have alarmed the enemy; if by water, the bar, passable only at high water, and surf at the river's mouth, rendered the entrance of boats next to impossible. The latter measure, however, had been decided on by the Duke; and to effect this purpose a little flotilla of chassemarées had been prepared in the Spanish harbour of Passages. But the long prevalence of storms and contrary winds had rendered its approach impracticable; and the gallant Sir John Hope, to whom the execution of this measure had been intrusted by the Duke of Wellington, at last on the 23rd of February, 1814, began to push his troops across upon a raft attached to a hawser; and thus, in the teeth of a strong fortress and garrison of nearly 15,000 men, 600 men of the Guards gained the opposite bank; the French gunboats which guarded the river being silenced by rockets, three of them burnt, and a sloop of war driven up the river under the guns of Bayonne, while the same effective weapons kept the garrison at bay. Next morning, in spite of the tempestuous weather and the raging surf on the bar, which was so furious as to leave no strip of black water to point out the passage, without pilots, with no landmarks on the shore, the little fleet made for the mouth of the Adour. Each vessel had an engineer on board, and a supply of timber, cables, &c., and, aided by men-of-war's boats from the fleet, they boldly dashed into the midst of the breakers, blindly seeking the entrance. Several of the foremost, mastered by the wind and the waves, ran aground or were dashed ashore,

and their crews perished. This did not deter the others, however; one more fortunate boat discovered the only safe channel, and the rest, following in its wake, gained smooth water within the bar—a glorious and gallant exploit. The 26 chassemarées thus introduced were moored head and stern by ropes stretched over the dykes which line the river at a spot where it is 800 ft. broad, at a distance of about 3 m. below Bayonne. Platforms of loose planks were laid between the boats, and the ropes were left slack, so as to allow the bridge to rise and fall with the tide; yet this seemingly frail structure was strong enough to bear the heaviest artillery, and it was finished by the 26th. This deep-laid scheme entirely foiled Marshal Soult, whose attention had been drawn off by the British general to an attack among the Gaves, the tributaries of the Adour high up the country, at the very moment when the passage of that river was effected close to the sea.

The commerce of Bayonne consists chiefly in wool, which is largely imported from Spain, and in an extensive smuggling trade carried on with that country. Its port is of comparatively small use, on account of the shifting bar at the *mouth of the Adour*, which can only be passed at high water, and not without danger at some seasons, though the employment of steam-tugs now diminishes the risk. The Adour flowed behind the sand dunes to Cape Breton, and afterwards to Vieux Boucaut until its present outlet was cut in 1579 by the engineer, Louis de Foix. Costly works have since been executed to maintain this outlet.

In the *Hotel de Ville* there is a public library of 10,000 vols., a valuable collection of archives, and a small museum.

Excellent *chocolate and brandy* are made here; the *Bayonne hams*, so called because largely exported hence, are cured among the Pyrenees, near Orthez and Pau. Some ships are built at Bayonne.

The well-supplied *markets*, abounding in fruit and vegetables, will be worth a visit; and these, or the promenades, will afford an opportunity of seeing the Bayonnaise ladies, who are remarkably pretty, as well as the Basque female peasants, who are also distinguished by pretty faces and good figures, offering a remarkable contrast with the inhabitants of the Landes.

There is a *Bull-Ring* in the suburb St. Esprit, where, at certain seasons, the Spanish favourite amusement of a bull-fight may be witnessed. In the inns will be found hung up advertisements of approaching *Bull Fights*, to be held at St. Sebastian, Vittoria, Tolosa, Saragossa, and other places in the N. of Spain, in the vicinity of the French frontier.

Those who desire a pleasant shady walk and fresh air should repair to the *Allées Marines*, a fine avenue of trees more than a mile long, on the l. bank of the Adour, below the town and opposite the citadel, reaching along the l. bank almost to the bend of the river, near which the Duke threw his army across.

The heights of St. Étienne command lovely views of the city, the Adour, and the Pyrenees. Here stands the modern *Château Caradoc*, built by the late Lord Howden, surmounted by 2 towers and surrounded by fine gardens.

A little way outside the town is the dilapidated *Château de Marrac*, destroyed by fire in 1825 and gutted. It belonged to Napoleon I., who here received the sovereigns of Spain, Charles IV. and his queen, with her minion Godoy. The Emperor also brought hither to meet them Ferdinand Prince of Asturias, whom, by false pretences, he had entrapped from Madrid in 1808: and in this château they resigned to Napoleon their hereditary rights to the crown of Spain, afterwards conferred on his brother Joseph.

The *Cemetery*, where many British soldiers and several officers of the Coldstream Guards, who fell in the sortie of the 14th April, 1814, are buried, is an enclosure about 40 ft. square, lying on a secluded hill-side, about 2 m. beyond the octroi gate; the key is kept by a peasant living near it. The graves, 12 in number, consist of solid blocks of granite, with the initials of those who

rest beneath cut into them. On the wall opposite the entrance, a commemorative tablet of marble has been set up, and at its foot lies the monument which was originally erected in Bayonne Cathedral, and stood there until it was removed in 1868 to its present position. The place is kept in admirable order.

Bayonne was the capital of the ancient district, inclosed within the Adour and Bidouse, called Pays de Labourd (from *Lapurdum*), by which it was known down to the 10th cent. The name Bayonne is merely the Basque *Baia una*, a port. The men of Bayonne were famed in early times as armourers. Hence comes the word *Bayonnette*, said to have been invented in this neighbourhood (see Rte. 77). The gloomy old *Castle* opposite the Sous-Préfecture, now a barrack, was probably the residence of Catherine de Medicis when she dragged hither her son, Charles IX., to the conference with the Duke of Alva, in 1563. Bayonne has the rare credit of refusing to execute the orders of Charles IX. to slay all the Protestants in the town, owing to the firmness of its governor, Dapremont, Vicomte d'Orthez, who told the king that the town of Bayonne included only good citizens and brave soldiers, but not a single executioner.

The chief place of resort for the inhab. of Bayonne out of the town is the watering-place of *Biarritz*, described in Rte. 77. A new direct Rly. was opened 1877, and there are omnibuses several times a day (fare 50 cent.), or char-à-bancs, &c.

A *British Consul* resides at Bayonne. *Bankers:* Messrs. Fonclair, Laran & Cie.

Railways—to Paris in 16 hrs.; to Pau direct in 3½ hrs.; to Madrid by Irun and St. Sebastian, in 21 hrs.

At the village of Anglet is an Orphan Asylum and Refuge, tended by nuns (Servantes de Marie). Ladies' work of all sorts is executed by the inmates.

[A short but interesting *excursion into Spain* may be made by rail to St. Sebastian, 35 m. See Rte. 77 and HANDBOOK FOR SPAIN.]

[An interesting excursion from either Biarritz or Bayonne is to the Convent of Roncevaux in Spain by Cambo.

From Bayonne to St. Jean Pied de Port (38 m.) there is a diligence in 7 or 8 hrs., passing by Cambo and Hasparren; but not by Itzatzou and Louhossoa.

12 m. *Cambo* (H. St. Martin, excellent cuisine and moderate, good head-quarters for fishing on the Nive), a pretty watering-place on the Nive, with sulphureous baths, and breeding ponds for the salmon fishery of the Nive.

[6 m. W. of Cambo is Hasparren, a Basque town of some importance.]

2½ m. *Itzatzou* (H. du Pas de Roland —fair inn). The village is close to the Pas de Roland, a gorge through which the Nive forces its way: in the narrowest part a rock is pierced by a hole, said to be made by the foot of Roland. From Itzatzou the Nive is crossed by a suspension-bridge.

3 m. *Louhossoa*, where porcelain-clay is found, which partly supplies the factory of Limoges: 5 m. beyond Louhossoa, at Helette, there is a good inn half a mile off the high road.

21 m. *St. Jean Pied de Port* (*Inn:* H. de France). The most thoroughly Basque town (Pop. 2000) in France, fortified, and with a citadel planned in 1668 by Deville, and enlarged by Vauban. There is a curious 13th-cent. *Church* in the suburb of Uhartcize. Three of the branches which form the Nive unite just below the town. Hence is a carriage-road as far as

7½ m. *Valcarlos* (*Inn:* H. Estanco nacional, fair), 2½ m. across the Spanish frontier, which is crossed previously at Aruéguy. From Valcarlos a well-worn mule-path leads through chestnut groves and beech-forests to

3 hrs. *Roncevaux*, the *Convent* founded to commemorate the destruction of Charlemagne's rear-guard by the Basques, A.D. 778, when Roland, Prefect of the Marches of Bretagne, Charlemagne's nephew, the hero of the 'Chanson de Roland,' finest of mediæval French epics, and of innumerable tales

of chivalry, was slain. Some relics (gauntlets and gaiters) of him and of Archbishop Turpin are said to be preserved in the sacristy. The pass was crossed by the Black Prince, by Charles the Bad in Feb. 1367, before the battle of Navarret, and again by Gen. Hill and the Spaniards in 1814. The ruined chapel adjoining the Campo Santo is probably the earliest building, the present church of much later date. Tolerable accommodation may be procured at the inn, the southernmost of the conventual buildings.

The return journey may be varied by crossing the mountains to

4 hrs. *Les Aldudes* (in France) (*Inn:* H. Espagnol, facing the church: (good inn), thence by carriage-road to

5 m. *La Fonderie* (or Banca), where are some curious copper-mines, said to have been wrought by the Romans, and still worked to some extent. Then to

5½ m. *Baïgorry* (*Inn:* Chez Berguignon), where is a side road, 7 m., to St. Jean Pied de Port. But the traveller may continue by a carriage-road along the river-side to

6 m. *Ossès*, thence to Bidarray (*Inn:* left of the bridge) (4 m.), Louhossoa (3 m.), Cambo (5 m.), or better road from Osses to Irissarry on the high-road near Helette.

The horseman or pedestrian wishing to continue westward by the mountains will find a carriage-road as far as

1½ hr. *Lecumberri*, turning off the main road by the church at St. Jean le Vieux, thence by mule-path, somewhat indistinct in places, to

4 hrs. *Ahusky*, a Basque watering-place, where accommodation, none of the cleanest, may be found; thence by stony mule-path to the valley of the Saison to

4 hrs. *Tardets.*

There is also a good carriage-road from St. Jean Pied de Port by St. Just and Mauléon to Tardets (33 m.)—*M.*]

ROUTE 76A.

BAYONNE TO TOULOUSE, BY PEYREHORADE (SORDES, STE. ENGRACE, PIC D'ANIE), PUYOO, PAU, AND TARBES. —RAIL.

Bayonne to	Kil.	Miles.
Peyrehorade	34	21
Puyoo Junct	51	31
Pau	106	66
Lourdes	145	90
Tarbes Junct.	165	103
St. Gaudens	231	144
Boussens Junct.	256	160
Toulouse	322	201

2 trains daily in 12 hrs.

Bayonne is described in Rte. 76.

The rly. follows the vale of the Adour.

10 m. *Urt* Stat. Near here, on the rt., are the ruined castles of Guiche and Bidache (seat of the Grammonts).

The Gave is crossed near *Hastingues*, an English castle destroyed by the Prince of Orange.

21 m. *Peyrehorade* Stat. (*Inn:* H. Lafont), a town of 2550 Inhab. The ruined *Castle* (15th cent.) on the l. belonged to the Aspremont family.

[Excursion by carriage to 3 m. *Sordes*, ruined *Abbey;* founded 960 by William Sancho, Duke of Gascony. Romanesque *Ch.* (M. H.) of 13th cent.; thence to 12 m. *Sauveterre*, where there is a *Ch.* of later date, a picturesque castle, old houses, and fine view from bridge on road to 13 m. *Mauléon* (*Inn:* H. Habiague), a pretty town commanded by a *Castle*, held by the English in olden times, now used as a prison. Diligence to *Oloron* (Rte. 82), or to *Orthez* Stat. (Rte. 78).

For the pedestrian there are charming walks to the head of the valley, taking the carriage-road to 10 m. *Larran*, a village of 1307 Inhab., 1900 ft. above the sea, and thence by mule-path to the Spanish frontier, or to the village of *Ste. Engrace*, from which place the ascent of the *Pic d'Anie*, the last of the great peaks westward (8216 ft.), may be made; but the summit

will be reached in a somewhat shorter time (5 hrs.) from *Lescun*, on the way to (8 hrs.) *Bédous*, in the valley of d'Aspe (Rte. 82).

It is in this district that the open-air tragedies, or Basques pastorales, are performed, usually at Easter.]

5 m. *Labatut* Stat.

5 m. *Puyoo* Junct. Stat. The line from *Dax* here and on to

34 m. **Pau** Stat. is described in Rte. 78. Thence to

24 m. *Lourdes* Junct. Stat., in Rte. 85; and on to

24 m. *Tarbes* Junct. Stat., in Rte. 88. Thence to

34 m. *Montrejeau* Junct. Stat., in Rte. 89; and on to

64 m. **Toulouse** Junct. Stat., Rte. 91.

ROUTE 77.

BAYONNE TO IRUN, IN SPAIN, BY BIARRITZ, ST. JEAN DE LUZ, AND HENDAYE.—RAIL.

	Kil.	Miles.
Bayonne to Biarritz . . .	10	6
St. Jean de Luz	23	14
Hendaye	36	22
Irun	38	23

4 trains daily, in 1¼ hr.

The new direct Rly. (opened 1877) runs between the principal road and the sea, and is more convenient than the line by the Négresse Stat., with which it is connected. It starts from outside the ramparts, about 1 m. from the stat., at St. Esprit. The omnibuses (40 min.) start every hr.; Sunday every ½ hr.

The carriage-road quits Bayonne by the Porte d'Espagne, through which Napoleon poured so many gallant armies in succession into the Peninsula, the rly. running parallel to it. The country is hilly the whole way to the frontier; see from time to time glimpses of the sea on the rt. A number of country-houses are passed, amongst which, at a little distance on the l., stands the Château de Marrac (Rte. 76). You turn rt. out of the road to Spain at d'Anglet to reach Biarritz.]

6 m. **Biarritz** (*La Négresse*) Stat., nearly 2 m. from the town, with which it is connected by a branch line (1877). (*Inns:* Grand H., good; H. d'Angleterre, facing the sea, well managed, and very comfortable; H. de France, kept by M. Fourneau, civil people; H. des Princes; H. de l'Europe.) Charges for lodgings, both at hotels and in private houses, more than double in the autumn than in winter.

This once secluded watering-place has risen into fashion and is increasing rapidly in size (Pop. 4700): since being honoured as the seaside residence of the late Imperial family. It consists of groups of villas and whitewashed lodging-houses, cafés, inns, traiteurs, cottages, &c., scattered over rolling eminences and hollows bare of trees, on the seashore, here fenced with cliffs 40 or 50 feet high, excavated by the waves into numberless quiet coves. In these the sea at times roars and chafes, perforating the rock with holes, and undermining huge masses, which are detached from time to time; and, left like islands at some distance from the shore, still project above the waves. From the tops of the cliffs, especially the projecting promontory which bears the ruins of an old fort or lighthouse, l'Atalaye, one looks over the wide expanse of the Bay of Biscay, bounded on the rt. by the Cape St. Martin, on which rises the *Phare*, showing the way into the mouth of the Adour; and on the l. by the coast of Spain beyond St. Sebastian, with peaks of distant Sierras rising behind it. A tunnel under the Atalaye leads to the Vieux Port, and to the small harbour of refuge, formed by connecting the isolated rocks by blocks of artificial stone, and from the extremity of which a breakwater, begun 1870, is in course of construction. The limpid purity of the sea and the smoothness of the sand render bathing in the sheltered bays

most agreeable, the chief resort being the Port Vieux, where French ladies and gentlemen "en toilette de bain" consume hours in aquatic promenades. The ladies may be seen floating about like mermaids, being supported on bladders, corks, or gourds, attired in woollen trousers and tunics, and overshadowed by broad-brimmed hats. The rocks round Biarritz are of the Eocene Tertiary formation, wonderfully fossiliferous (nummulitic). Towards Bidart rocks of the chalk and chalk-marl appear.

Close to the shore, N. of the town, on a terrace beaten by the waves, is the *Villa Eugénie*, built by the late Emperor Napoleon III., 1855, as a marine residence for the Empress, who had been a constant visitor here while Madlle. de Teba. It is a plain mansion, constructed of English bricks, which cost, it is said, at the rate of 6*d*. apiece. It is nevertheless but "a modest mansion."

Biarritz is a very desirable winter residence, from its fine climate; good medical advice, both French and English; and cheapness of living from Nov. till June. Very fair houses may be hired at from 250 to 500 fr. a month. The climate is more bracing than that of Pau, but more windy.

The *Eng. Prot. Ch.* was built here 1860, to which the late French Emperor liberally contributed. A new and handsome ch. is in course of building opposite the Post-office, to provide for the increased wants of the place. Service twice a day on Sundays and every morning, by a clergyman of the Ch. of England.

Physicians.—Dr. Charles Girdlestone and Dr. Welby practise here.

There is an *English Club*, to which strangers may be introduced for 2 days free, on producing a card. Beyond this, subscription.

English banker, E. H. W. Bellairs.

Excursions to Cambo and Roland's Pass, Roncevaux, &c. See Rte. 76 at the end, and to St. Jean de Luz and La Rhune (see below); to the lake of Yrieu, a few miles N. of Bayonne. Steamers in summer to San Sebastian, Bilbao, and Santander.

Omnibuses and chars-à-banc are constantly plying between the baths and the Porte d'Espagne at Bayonne.

The *Casino*, a huge building of 4 storeys, with balconies and pavilions overlooking the sea, contains assembly, ball, and reading-rooms, well supplied with newspapers.

From Biarritz the line continues S.W. to

3 m. *Bidart-Guéthary* Stat., a Basque village.

Bidart is a small quiet watering-place. (*Inn:* H. Zuzon, good.) A few lodging-houses.

We here enter the *Pays Basque*, inhabited by that peculiar race who speak a language having no relation with any other in Europe. They occupy in France only a small part of the W. corner of the Dépt. des Basses Pyrénées, but are much more widely disseminated in Spain, where they form the mass of the population of 5 provinces. The French and Spanish Basques are distinguished by their dialect, and also by their costume, consisting of the beret, a cap resembling that of the lowland shepherd in Scotland, a red sash round the waist, and sandals made of hemp, called Espartinac (Basque), Espadrilles (French), Alparagatas (Span.), on the feet. They are supposed to be the descendants of the "Cantabrum indoctum ferre juga nostra," who sided with Hannibal in opposing the Romans, who contributed mainly to the defeat of Charlemagne and Roland in the pass of Roncevaux, and whose boast is that they were never conquered. In France they are confined to portions of the arrondissements of Bayonne and Mauléon, which formed part of the ancient kingdom of Navarre.

5 m. *St. Jean de Luz* Stat. (*Inns:* H. de la Plage, new and good; H. de France, comfortable; H. Poste, best situated), the frontier town of France (3300 Inhab.), at the mouth of the Nivelle, where it falls into a beautiful bay. St. Jean was once a thriving port, sending vessels regularly to the whale fishery; its commerce has decayed, and its port is partly destroyed

by inroads of the sea and sand. It is now much frequented as a watering-place, chiefly by Spaniards. At the N. end of its smooth sandy beach is an excellent *bathing establishment*. The Nivelle is tidal for 4 m., and well adapted for boating: the environs are more pleasing, and afford more shade than those of Biarritz. A strong *sea wall* protects the town, and a large *mole* is being built across the mouth of the bay, to convert it into a safe port for large vessels. The town is distinguished by its narrow street and whitewashed houses, some of considerable antiquity. The suburb on the l. bank of the river is called Cibourre. The marriage of Louis XIV. with Maria Theresa, Infanta of Spain, was celebrated in the 13th-cent. *Ch. of St. Jean Baptiste* in 1660. The *Maison Lohobiague*, or Château de Louis XIV., the *house* which the royal party occupied is still pointed out.

English church and chaplain here.

In Nov. 1813, the British army, under the Duke of Wellington, crossed the Nivelle close to this town, after attacking and carrying the very strong intrenched position occupied by the French army upon the heights on the l. bank of the river.

The forms of the mountains are picturesque, especially of that called *La Rhune*, rising above Urrugne, which is visible even from the other side of Bayonne. The ascent may be made in 2½ hrs. from *L'Ascain* (H. la Rhune) or *Olette*, each distant about 4 m. by carriage-road from St. Jean de Luz. The view will well repay. Before reaching this point the traveller finds, contrary probably to what he could have expected from books, that the mountain chain of the Pyrenees by no means terminates in France, but stretches W. in lofty ridges and bare peaks tossed about in wild confusion, traversing Spain to its farther corner, and ending at Cape Ortegal in the Asturias.

8 m. *Hendaye* Stat. (Buffet, good liqueur, like Chartreuse, from the distilleries in the town, and English beer also obtainable) (*Inns:* Grand H., good and moderate; H. International, good). This village, of some 500 Inhab., is on the rt. bank of the Bidassoa, which separates France from Spain, and here crossed by a viaduct. The view is fine, and travellers may cross in a boat to the characteristic old town and castle of *Fuentarabia* on the opposite bank, rejoining the rly. at *Irun* Stat., close to which they may land.

The luggage of travellers entering France is searched at *Hendaye*, and on entering Spain at Irun: but in case of being registered at Paris for Madrid, and *vice versâ*, it is not opened at either frontier; after it has undergone the process at the frontier, the owner will do well to have it sealed up, to avoid a repetition of the same operation between this and Bayonne. 50 c. is the charge for sealing or *plombing* each package.

The wild and lofty mountains around and behind Behobie, called Montagne Verte and Mendele, now so solitary, were strongly fortified by Marshal Soult in 1813, to defend the *Passage of the Bidassoa*, which the Duke of Wellington effected nevertheless, in the face and in spite of him. In the course of several months preceding, every weak point had been strengthened by the French, and the whole line of slopes and precipices, from the sea to the Rhune mountain, bristled with batteries, defending the fords of the river; the bridge of Behobie, traversed by the high road from Paris to Madrid, having been broken down.

On the green knoll or mamelon of St. Marcial, a strong battery was planted by the Allies, which covered the passage, by a ford higher up, of one division, consisting of Spaniards, under Gen. Freire, who drove the French from the heights of Mendele. The most formidable part of the French position was La Rhune, not only from its elevation, steepness, and tremendous precipices, but from the redoubts, intrenchments, &c., thrown up on it, wherever there appeared the least facility of approach, and from the strong body of troops who held every commanding point, sweeping the slopes and ravines with their cannon and musketry. The Duke of Wellington employed nearly 20,000 men

in the attack of this mountain, which was gained, as it were, inch by inch, the enemy being driven from one work after another up to the very summit, where they occupied a rocky height called the Hermitage. This was nearly impregnable, and they defended it for some time merely by rolling down stones upon their assailants.

A lower ridge, or projecting buttress, of the Rhune, is called *La Bayonnette*, from that weapon of war, invented, it is said, on this spot, by a Basque regiment, who, having run short of ammunition, assaulted the Spaniards opposed to them by sticking the long knives which the Basques commonly carry into the barrels of their muskets, and thus charging the enemy. This must have occurred some time in the 16th or early in the 17th cent. The ridge of the Bayonnette was stormed and carried by the Allies 1813, before they gained the Rhune.

Behind St. Marcial opens out the Valley of Bastan, the cradle of the Bidassoa. A good carriage-road runs up by Elizondo to the Col de Maya, Cambo, and Bayonne. Close below the bridge of Behobie is a little island, reduced by the washing of the current to a narrow strip of earth, tufted with grass and willows, marked by a pyramid. This is the historically celebrated *Ile des Faisans*, on which the conferences were held between the French Minister Mazarin and the Spanish Don Louis de Haro, which led to the famous treaty of the Pyrenees, 1659, and the marriage of Louis XIV. with the daughter of Philip IV. Each sovereign advanced from his own territory, by a temporary bridge, to this bit of neutral ground, which then reached nearly up to the bridge. The piles which supported the Cardinal's pavilion were visible not many years ago. The death of Velasquez the painter was caused by his exertions in superintending these constructions; duties more fitting to an upholsterer than a painter.

The Bidassoa forms the line of demarcation between the two kingdoms only for about 12 m.: it enters the sea about 5 m. below Behobie, between Hendaye on the French side, and the town of Fuentarabia on the Spanish, after passing near

8 m. *Irun* (Buffet), first Spanish station and town. (See HANDBOOK FOR SPAIN.)

Between Irun and Fuentarabia are the 3 fords discovered by the Duke of Wellington, on the information of Spanish fishermen, by which he carried one division of his army across, and, gaining the first permanent footing in the French territory, turned the rt. of the French position, and the strongly defended heights near Hendaye. These fords were practicable only at spring tide, and for 3 or 4 hours, being covered by the sea, to a depth of 14 ft., at high water. Soult was therefore perfectly unprepared for an attempt to cross at this point, and his troops were deceived by the tents of the British camp being left standing as though still occupied. At the close of a fierce thunder-storm, early on the morning of Oct. 17, the allied army, formed into 7 columns behind banks and ridges, issued forth at a given signal, and, winding slowly across the broad sands, effected the passage before the enemy became aware of their intention.

Passing rt. *Passages* and its singular land-locked harbour, the rly. reaches

11 m. **St. Sebastian** Stat., the beauty of which cannot be thoroughly enjoyed from the passing train. (*Inns:* H. de Londres, best, kept by a Frenchman; H. Parador Real, fair and moderate; H. du Commerce; H. Sant' Isabel.) No longer a strong fortress, since modern artillery commands its seagirt citadel from the surrounding heights. (*See* HANDBOOK OF SPAIN.)

Ascend to the citadel, from which fine views over the land and sea (*see* graves of British officers). On Sunday, good music in the cathedral. Return to Biarritz by an evening train, dining at Hendaye. No passport required by British subjects on entering Spain.

ROUTE 78.

DAX TO PAU, BY ORTHEZ—RAIL.

Dax to	Kil.	Miles.
Puyoo	31 . .	19
Orthez	46 . .	28
Pau	83 . .	51

Time, 2 to 4 hrs.; *trains*, 3 daily.

Dax Junct. Stat., on the Bordeaux and Bayonne Rly., is described in Rte. 76. Here the Rly. to *Pau* turns S.E. by

8 m. *Mimbaste* Stat., before reaching which the river is crossed.

11 m. *Puyoo* Junct. Stat. The castle of *Bellocq* is near the suspension-bridge over the Gave, which anciently formed the boundary-line between the kingdoms of France and Navarre. [Rly. W. to Bayonne (Rte. 76A).]

Beyond Puyoo the fertility of the plain, the abundant watercourses, the luxuriant festoons of the vines, and the magnificent views of the Pyrenean range, give interest to this portion of the route. At Berenz, Sir Stapylton Cotton's division of cavalry, and Picton's 3rd brigade, crossed the Gave before the *Battle of Orthez*. That *victory* was achieved, Feb. 27, 1814, by driving the French from a very strong position on the heights above Orthez, extending from the town to the high road to Dax and the village of Boés. The retreat of the enemy ended in a flight, and they were pursued by the British, the same night, as far as Sault de Navailles. A wound received by the Duke of Wellington in the critical moment of pursuit contributed to save the French from greater loss. They attribute their defeat to a superiority of force on the side of the Allies, but the impartial estimate of Col. Napier sets down the numbers of Soult's army at 40,000 (including 4000 or 5000 raw conscripts), and that of the Duke at 37,000. The British cavalry outnumbered that of the enemy by 1000. The French lost nearly 4000 men killed, wounded, and prisoners; the Allies, 2300. Obelisk to Fr. Gen. Foy, wounded.

10 m. **Orthez** Stat. (*Inn:* H. La Belle Hôtesse; good cuisine) is a somewhat dull town of 6627 Inhab., though situated at the junction of several roads into Spain by St. Jean Pied de Port, to Dax, and Bordeaux, to Oloron, to Pau, and to Bayonne. It has a modern bridge of a single arch, and an old Gothic one of 4 pointed arches, surmounted in the centre by a tower from which, according to tradition, the Calvinist soldiers of the army of the Comte de Montgomery, after taking the town by assault, 1569, and putting to the sword most of its defenders, precipitated into the river the Roman Catholic priests who were found with arms in their hands, and who refused to abjure their religion. Jeanne d'Albret, Queen of Navarre, mother of Henri IV., established here a Protestant College. The little Inn La Belle Hôtesse was Froissart's "La Lune."

Orthez was once a place of importance, as residence of the Princes of Béarn down to the end of the 15th cent., when they removed to Pau. The *Castle de Moncada*, built by Gaston de Foix IV., 1240, after the pattern of a Spanish castle of that name, was dismantled by Richelieu, and is reduced to a few ruined walls, overtopped by one stately tower, left to attest its former splendour, on a height above the town. It is mentioned by Froissart, who paid a visit to Gaston Phœbus Comte de Foix here, 1388, and was received into the household, in order to obtain, from the Count's own mouth, information for his history respecting the wars in Gascony and Spain. He describes the death of Gaston at the neighbouring village of Riou, on his return from hunting the bear, and the celebration of his funeral in the Church of the Cordeliers at Orthez, where he was buried in front of the high altar. The Castle of Orthez was the scene of unparalleled crimes during the life of the brutal Gaston Phœbus, who filled its dungeons with the victims of his unbridled passion; among them his own kinsman, the Viscomte

de Châteaubon, Pierre Arnaut, the faithful governor of Lourdes (see Rte. 85), and, finally, his own son and only child, whom he killed with his knife, in the dark cell into which he had caused him to be immured. Blanche de Navarre was poisoned here.

9 m. *Lacq* Stat. [Branch *Rly. in progress;* in mean time *Diligence* to 19 m. *Oloron*, described in Rte. 82.]

The picturesque Pic du Midi d'Ossau is visible near this.

15 m. *Lescar* Stat. The old and decayed town *Lescar*, is supposed by some to be the ancient *Beneharnum*, whence the district of which it was originally the capital was called Béarn. It was sacked and ruined during the wars of Religion, 1569, by the troops of the Comte de Montgomery. On a detached eminence, rising above the town, stand the Castle, of brick, and the *Church of Notre Dame* (M.H.), a decayed 12th-cent. edifice, partly in the Romanesque style, retaining fragments of mosaic pavement under the flooring. The early princes of Béarn, including Henri d'Albret, grandfather of Henri IV., and his wife, the Marguerite des Marguerites, were buried in it; but their tombs were destroyed either by the Huguenots in the 16th or the Revolutionists in the 19th cent. There is a fine view of the mountains from the cathedral terrace. The *Jesuits' College*, founded by Henri IV. after his conversion, was turned into a manufactory, but now deserted.

Nearer to Pau, on the l. of the road, is *Bilhères*, where Henri was nursed by a peasant, whose lineal descendant still occupies the dwelling, pointed out with some pride by the inhabitants. The eminence rising on the opposite bank of the Gave, its slopes covered with verdure and vineyards, is the *Côte de Jurançon*, which produces the best of all the Pyrenean wines.

The rly., before entering Pau, skirts the wooded ridge which forms its beautiful Parc.

2 m. **Pau** *Stat.* (Buffet). Omnibuses to the various hotels.

(*Inns:* Grand Hôtel Gassion, on the Boulevard du Midi, near castle, one of the handsomest buildings of the kind in France; H. de France, at the corner of the Place Royale, first rate; H. de la Paix; H. Beau Séjour, at E. end of Terrace near Lycée, good family hotel; H. de la Poste; H. de l'Europe, Rue de la Préfecture, improved; H. de la Daurade; H. Henri IV.; H. du Commerce, good second-class house.) Good *lodgings* may be had at the Bains de la Place Royale, but apply at the *Bureau Syndical* (48 Rue Préfecture) for all information respecting houses to let, apartments, servants, &c. &c. The charges for board and lodging are higher during the winter season, 1 Oct. to 31st May, than in summer.

This ancient capital of the little kingdom of French Navarre and Béarn, now chief town of the Dépt. des Basses Pyrénées, stands on a lofty ridge, forming the rt. bank of the river, or Gave de Pau. It has 30,000 Inhab., and during the winter months an increasing number of foreign residents (3000 to 4000), chiefly English, owing to the ease with which it may now be reached, it being 18 hrs. by rail from Paris (500 m.), 30 hrs. from London, 28 hrs. from Madrid. Its situation is perhaps scarcely surpassed by that of any town in France, if we consider the magnificent view over the chain of the W. Pyrenees, which expands in front of it at an average distance of 20 m. This *View*, reminding one somewhat of that from the platform at Berne, though inferior to it, is well seen from the Castle and its terrace, or from the Boulevard du Midi, or from the *Parc*, which is a fine natural terrace, running along the rt. bank of the Gave, thickly covered, on its top and sides, with noble trees, affording a grateful shade in the heat of the day, and provided with seats wherever, through gaps in the foliage, the different parts of the view appear to advantage. This spot formed part of the domain anciently attached to the old castle, and a communication between the castle and the Parc, through a formal square planted with rows of trees, called *Plante*, has been established by a handsome bridge of two arches, thrown over the high road.

The range of the Pyrenees, as seen

from Pau, presents a strikingly beautiful and varied outline of peaks, cones, and ridges, often cut like a saw, rising against the S. horizon. Among the mass of summits, and precipices, and bold forms, are two pre-eminent from their elevation and shape—the Pic du Midi d'Ossau to the W., a peak with sides nearly vertical and cloven crest, rising at the extremity of the beautiful Val d'Ossau; and to the E., the Pic du Midi de Bigorre. These members of the great central range are disclosed to view through the gaps of a subordinate chain of round-backed and wooded hills forming the middle distance; while in the foreground appear the venerable Castle of Pau, the torrent, or Gave, its banks beautifully fringed with trees, the picturesque bridge, and the ruins of another bridge destroyed by its inundations. Within the scope of this view appear Jurançon, a village famed for its wines, and Bilhères, where Henri IV. was nursed. It is a glorious prospect, to be dwelt upon and seen over and over again.

There are 3 poles in the arms of the town, and the name Pau is said to be derived from these *pali*, it being the custom in Béarn to plant *poles* on the intended site of a town. The town owes its origin to the Viscounts of Béarn, who built a "manor" here, around which a village clustered; but its chief renown is due to its having been the birthplace of the "Bon Roi" Henri IV., who drew his first breath (Dec. 13, 1553) in its ancient, time-honoured, historic **Castle* (open to the public every day except Monday, 10 to 12 and 2 to 4), the most conspicuous and interesting building in the town. It stands upon the ridge above mentioned, overlooking the river and bridge, at the point of a sort of promontory formed by a small rivulet which passes through the town, and behind the castle walls at the bottom of a deep ravine, to throw itself into the Gave, just below it. The five towers of the Castle, and the outer wall which connects them, and serves to support the upper storeys, are the oldest part, and supposed to date from the time of Gaston Phœbus Comte de Foix, who rebuilt the castle about 1363. The tallest tower, or *Donjon*, named after Gaston, at the E. end, rising to a height of 110 ft. is built wholly of tiles, and furnished with loopholes. The windows have been closed in modern times. A copy of the contract for erecting it (dated 1375) still exists, and in it the Count himself engages to furnish the bricks or tiles from the Tuileries de Pau. In the gutted and half-ruined *Tour de la Monnoye*, rising on the side of the castle next the river, Margaret de Valois, it is said, gave an asylum to Calvin and other persecuted Reformers, and took great delight in listening to their discourse, although she never actually abandoned the Roman Catholic faith. The little oblong court of the castle is destitute of architectural beauty; the *Tour de Montauzet*, on one side of it, contained, according to popular belief, the oubliettes. It is about 80 ft. high, and its walls, to a height of 40 ft., were originally destitute of any opening, the gate at the bottom having been broken through in 1793, when the castle was sacked and despoiled by the Revolutionists. It stands within, and detached from, the outer wall of the castle, from which a small drawbridge, thrown over the gap, gave access to it through a small door. Within the thickness of its walls 7 or 8 confined dungeons exist, lighted by very small barred apertures. The upper storey only is provided with a window, looking into the court, and with a fireplace. On its wall, towards the court, are seen marks of the shot fired by the Biscayans when they assaulted the castle during the civil wars in Béarn (1569), in the absence of Jeanne de Navarre.

Opposite the tower of Montauzet is the grand staircase, the vaulting of which, divided into compartments, contains rich carvings, among which may be observed the letters H. M., the initials of Henri II. of Navarre and Margaret, the grand-parents of Henri IV., by whom it was built. The entire restoration of the interior, and of the ancient decorations, injured by the

Revolutionists, and the covering of walls of the chief apartments with tapestry, was undertaken by Louis-Philippe, with very good taste and splendour. The exterior restorations undertaken by the late Emperor Napoléon III. have tended to destroy the original character of the walls, which, like all public buildings in Pau, consisted partly of stones from the Gave, and partly of flat bricks or tiles.

In an apartment on the first floor is preserved a very interesting relic —the **cradle* in which Henri IV. was rocked, consisting of a large tortoise-shell, inverted and suspended by cords, like the scale of a balance. It is surmounted by a trophy of flags, embroidered by the Duchesse d'Angoulême, the staves of which serve to support it. When the castle was sacked in 1793 by the Republicans, bent on destroying all traces of royalty, they would certainly not have spared this; but, luckily, another tortoise-shell was substituted in its place, which was broken and burnt with every insult. A contemporary statue of Henri IV., preserved here, represents him leaning on his truncheon, after the battle of Ivry; it has little merit as a work of art. In front of the state apartments projects a balcony, commanding a view of the chain of the Pyrenees, unsurpassed for its beauty. In the second storey of the castle, in the room adjoining the Tour de Mazères in the S.W. corner, Henri IV. was born. Here his venerable grandfather, Henri d'Albret, taking in his arms the new-born infant, after his lips had been rubbed with garlic, according to the custom of Béarn, poured down his throat some drops of Jurançon wine, the best which the country affords, to give him a strong constitution! Jeanne d'Albret was also born in the castle, 1528. It was alternately the prison of Reformers and Romanists during the religious wars and troubles of Béarn; and was the refuge of Theodore Beza and other Protestant teachers whom Jeanne de Navarre protected from persecution.

Among the costly and old-fashioned furniture collected by King Louis-Philippe to decorate the castle, and restore it to its ancient splendour, may be mentioned the bed, in the chambre-à-coucher du Roi, said to be that of Henri IV., carved with medallion heads of the kings of France: in an adjoining room is the bed of Jeanne d'Albret, and a state chair, bearing her arms, presented by Marshal Soult. The chapel has been fitted up, and has a painted-glass window, executed at Sèvres. The apartment leading to it contains some magnificent presents made by Bernadotte, King of Sweden, to the town of Pau, his birthplace. They consist of vases of porphyry of large size, superb tables of various kinds of porphyry, conglomerate, &c., and a chimney-piece of serpentine, all the produce of Sweden, and of great value and beauty.

The moat and the ground round the castle have been laid out in pleasant walks. Abd-el-Kader was a prisoner in the Castle in 1848. The Duke of Hamilton occupied it in 1857, and the Queen Isabella in 1869.

Marshal Bernadotte, who became King of Sweden, was son of a saddler in Pau, and born in the house, No. 6 Rue de Tran. He quitted his native town, 1780, as a drummer-boy in the Régiment Royal de la Marine.

It is a somewhat remarkable coincidence, that of the two most eminent men and sovereigns who first drew breath at Pau, the one abandoned the Protestant faith, the other the Roman Catholic, in order to secure a throne.

The old *Ch.* of *St. Martin*, in which Jeanne d'Albret, the most sagacious and accomplished princess of her age, after our Elizabeth, first received the Communion according to the form of the Reformed Church, on Easter-day, 1560, and in which Viret, the Reformer, preached, has been pulled down, and a handsome large building in the style of the 13th cent. erected in its place. The *Ch. of St. Jacques* has also been recently built in the style of the 13th cent.

A *Statue of Henri IV.*, by Raggi, has been set up in the Place Royale (1843); the bas-reliefs on the pedestal represent events of his life.

The *College*, at the E. end of the

town, was originally a convent of Barnabites, founded by Henri IV., after he had abandoned the faith of his mother, in order to conciliate the Roman Catholics.

In the *Casino* belonging to the Hotel Gassion balls and concerts are given, and there is a good reading-room attached—subscription 1 pers. 30 f. per month.

The *Poste aux Lettres*, Place de la Nouvelle Halle, adjoins the *Préfecture*, where is deposited a very curious collection of old records, deeds, &c., relating to the ancient state and history of Béarn, including the Fors (fueros, privilèges) of Béarn; autographs of its most illustrious Béarnois sovereigns, and a list of the contributions collected in Béarn towards the ransom of Francis I. from captivity.

There are *Hot Baths* (for 75 c.) at the extremity of the Place Royale and also in the Basse Plante.

There is a *Musée* near the Ch. of St. Martin devoted chiefly to the natural history of the Pyrenees. It contains a collection of marbles of the Pyrenees, a duplicate painting of the birth of Henri IV. by *Deveria*, and a *Library* of 20,000 vols.

The *Halle Neuve*, opposite the Post Office, is a spacious and well-arranged market, and over it a range of handsome apartments for various municipal purposes.

The town of Pau is not handsome or remarkable. Its chief street is the Rue de la Préfecture, which on market-days presents a bustling scene; here are the chief shops.

Many English make Pau their residence, chiefly during the winter months, when a peculiar stillness reigns in the atmosphere; but though the climate is mild, the variations in temperature are often sudden. The town, too, is imperfectly drained, though a complete system of sewerage is under the discussion of the authorities.

Pau is now greatly resorted to by the wealthy Parisians; good houses are consequently difficult to procure, and though provisions are cheap, house-rent is very high. A number of new houses have been built.

Eng. Ch. Service (11 and 4) at *Trinity Ch.*, Rue du Temple, back of the Grand Hotel, *Christ Ch.*, in the Rue Serviez, and at *St. Andrew's* (temporary iron ch.), in the Rue Calas. There is also a *Scotch* Presb. ch. and a *French* Reformed ch.

English Physicians.—Sir Alex. Taylor, Dr. Bagnell, Dr. de Voght.

Bankers.—Mr. Musgrave Claye, an English gentleman and United States Vice-Consul, is most obliging, and the principal banker. Mr. Church, H.B.M.'s Vice-Consul, has also a banking establishment at No. 13 Rue Serviez.

Clubs.—The *English* club, of 150 members, is in the Place Royale, the chief subscribers being English and American. It contains a library and billiard-room, and all the best French, English, and American periodicals are taken. Strangers are no longer admitted. The *cercle* Henri IV. is on the first floor of the theatre, and there is a 3rd club, called the *cercle* Béarnais.

A *Circulating Library* of English and French books is kept by Lafon, Rue Henri IV., an intelligent and respectable bookseller, whose shop is a Bureau de Renseignements, very useful to strangers.

A subscription *pack of hounds* is kept up, hunting during the season 3 times a week.

There are 2 *Theatres*, l'Opéra and Variétés. *Golf* and *Cricket* Clubs near the town; a *Circulating Library*, got up by subscription; a *College* or *Lycée* for boys of all nations. Carriages and saddle-horses at reasonable fares. *Hackney Coaches* in abundance. By day, the course 1 fr.; per hr. 2 fr.

Railways; to Lourdes (whence Diligences to Cauterets, Luz, Barèges), to Tarbes Auch, Agen, and Paris (Rtes. 85, 79); to Dax, Bayonne, Bordeaux, and Paris; to Bagnères de Bigorre; to Montrejeau, Bagnères de Luchon, and to Toulouse. Diligences *daily* to Oloron in 3 hrs.; to Eaux-Bonnes and Eaux-Chaudes.

Commerce.—From the swine reared near this and about Orthez are derived

the so-called *Jambons de Bayonne*; they are said to owe their excellent flavour to the abundance of acorns in the woods where they are herded, and to the salt of Sallies with which they are cured. There is a considerable manufacture of chequered handkerchiefs at Pau. The white wine of Jurançon comes from the vineyards on the opposite side of the Gave.

EXCURSIONS.

The situation of Pau is such that by the rlys. and excellent roads travellers may visit many of the finest spots in the Pyrenees, and return the same evening. The principal excursions to be made in one or two days are—

3 m. S.W. *Perpigna*, and 1½ m. farther, *Guirardet*.

4½ m. S. Château of *Tout y croit*, in the Happy Valley.

7 m. N. village of *Serres Castets* (small *Inn*), fine view.

7 m. N.E. *Morlaàs* (fair *Inn*), a poor village of 1700 Inhab., the capital of Béarn down to the 13th cent. The Romanesque *Ch.* (M. H.) *of Ste. Foi* (1089) has a splendid W. portal, with much 12th-cent. carving, and a rich chapel with altarpiece of 16th cent. The view from the hill before descending into the village is magnificent.

7 m. W. *Artiguelouve* and to *Arbus*, *Lescar*, and *Bilhères* (Rte. 78).

8 m. S.E. Chapel of *Piétat*, by way of Pardies, returning by Gan.

10 m. S. *Rébénacq* and its peak (Rte. 83) (sources and grotto of Néez), returning by (3 m. W.) Belair (Rte. 82).

12 m. S.E. *Nay* and 4 m. farther, *Betharram* (Rte. 85).

17 m. S. *Louvie* (Rte. 83), and to *St. Christau* and *Oloron* (Rte. 82).

25 m. S.E. *Lourdes* (Rte. 85), and on to *Argèles*, *Luz*, *Gavarnie*, *Baréges*, &c.

28 m. S. *Eaux-Bonnes* and *Eaux-Chaudes* and neighbourhood (Rte. 83).

41 m. S.E. *Cauterets* (Rte. 85) and the *Lac de Gaube*.

Carriage-hire varies much; but, generally speaking, in the Pyrenees, four horses will not exceed 1 fr. per kil.

ROUTE 79.

PÉRIGUEUX TO PAU, BY AGEN, AUCH, AND TARBES—RAIL.

	Kil.	Miles.
Périgueux to Agen	152	94
Astaffort	171	106
Lectoure	188	117
Fleurance	198	123
Auch	222	138
Mirande	250	155
Rabastens	294	184
Tarbes	304	190
Pau	363	227

Time, 14 hrs. The *trains* do not connect through.

For the first part of this route, from Périgueux to

Agen Junct. Stat. see Rtes. 72A, 73. The line to Toulouse (Rte. 73) is left at

3 m. *Bon-Encontre* Junct. Stat., where the rly. crosses the Garonne by a viaduct bridge of 17 arches, to enter the valley of the Gers, which it follows as far as Auch, running in a continuous southerly direction.

13 m. *Astaffort* Stat. Enter the Dépt. du Gers.

12 m. *Lectoure* Stat. (*Inns:* H. de France, good), a town of 6086 Inhab., on the top of an abrupt hill. Roman relics. Tour du Bourreau, former residence of the executioner. Hotel of the Ducs de Roquelaure. On the *Promenade du Bastion* statue of Marshal Lannes, b. here 1769.

[About 10 m. W. of this, reached by diligences in 1¾ hr., is

Condom (*Inns:* H. Lion d'Or, good food; H. Cheval Blanc), a town of 8140 Inhab., on the Baïse, a stream descending from Marmande and parallle to the Gers, and a place of considerable trade. It has a handsome *Ch.* (formerly cathedral) of the 14th and 15th cents. Rly. *in progress* N. through Nerac to Port Ste. Marie, on rly. between Agen and Bordeaux.]

21 m. **Auch** Stat. (*Inns:* H. d' Angleterre; H. de France, clean, cooking good). The chief town of the Département du Gers, of 13,087 Inhab., and see of an archbishop, situated on the top and slopes of an eminence washed by the Gers at its base, and crowned by the *Cathedral*, begun in the reign of Charles VIII., and completed in that of Louis XIV., without regard to unity of style, by a richly decorated portico in imitation of that of St. Peter's at Rome. The church is 347 ft. long, and 87 ft. high. The *painted glass* is of rare richness of colour, but is coarse in design; it was executed (1513) by Arnaud de Moles. The *carved woodwork* of the 113 choir stalls is equally remarkable, and is scarcely surpassed in France. At the back of the stalls are well-executed figures of Virtues, &c., in bas-relief, inclosed in niches and canopies of elaborate workmanship (date 1520-46). The choir is separated from the nave by a jubé, or rood-loft.

Long flights of stairs lead from the lower town to the upper: many old houses are preserved here. The *Place Royale*, in the higher and better quarter of the town, into which the narrow streets converge, includes the Cath. and other chief buildings. Adjoining it is the *Cours d'Etigny*, so named from a magistrate by whom it was laid out, commanding a glorious *view* of the chain of the Pyrenees. A grand *flight of steps*, like those in Rome, mounts from the level of the Gers to the back of the cathedral.

Auch was anciently capital of the *Ausci*, afterwards of the Comté d'Armagnac, and seat of an Archbishop, the Primate of Aquitaine.

The rly. is carried out of the vale of the Gers in a series of curves into that of the Petite Baise.

13 m. *L'Isle de Noé* Stat.

17 m. *Mirande* Stat. (*Inn:* H. Rosselli, clean and good), a town of 4000 Inhab. Remains of an *old Castle*. View of the Pyrenees from here, magnificently fine.

Another summit-level is surmounted before reaching

10 m. *Mielan* Stat., and yet another before

5 m. *Villecomtal* Stat.

3 m. *Rabastens* Junct. Stat. (H. Trouet, a clean country *Inn*, first-rate cooking), in a rich plain, watered by *le Canal d'Alaric*.

[*Rly.* N.W. through Mont de Marsan for Morcenx and Bordeaux (Rte. 80).

6 m. *Tarbes* Junct. Stat., in Rte. 88.

36 m. *Pau*, see Rtes. 85, 88.

ROUTE 80.

BORDEAUX TO BAGNÈRES DE BIGORRE, BY MONT DE MARSAN, AIRE, AND TARBES—RAIL.

	Kil.	Miles.
Bordeaux to Morcenx	109	68
Mont de Marsan	148	91
Aire	180	112
Maubourguet	220	136
Vic de Bigorre	229	142
Tarbes	246	153
Bagnères	268	166

Time, 10½ hrs.; 1 *train* daily.

Bordeaux is described in Rte. 73.

For the *Rly.* as far as

68 m. *Morcenx* Junct. Stat. (See Rte. 76.) Thence the line turns S.E. to

27 m. *Mont de Marsan* Stat. (*Inn:* H. des Ambassadeurs; civil people. Ortolans may be had in August). This is the chief town of the Dépt. des Landes (8455 Inhab.), and enjoys some commerce by its position at the junction of two streams, the Douze and Medou, taking the name of Medouze, becoming navigable from here to its junction with the Adour.

3 m. *Grenade* Stat. From here the line ascends the valley of the Adour, and crosses the river at

7 m. *Cazères* Stat.

4 m. *Aire* Stat. (*Inn:* H. de France), a town of 4885 Inhab. on the l. bank

of the Adour, here crossed by a stone bridge. The *Ch. of Mas d'Aire* (*St. Quitterie*) is of brick, dating from the 13th cent.; its central apse may be older. In the curious crypt is a rudely carved early Christian sarcophagus. [The carriage road direct S., 22 m. to Pau, passes through *Garlin*, where there is a poor *Inn.*]

9 m. *Riscle* Stat.

The British army had a brush with Marshal Clausel here in 1814, before the Battle of Toulouse.

6 m. *Castelnau* (*Rive Basse*) Stat.

6 m. *Caussade* Stat., on the Adour.

14 m. *Maubourguet* Stat.

5 m. *Vic de Bigorre* Junct. Stat.

[Rly. N. to Auch and Agen (Rte. 79).]

6 m. *Turbes* Junct. Stat. (Rte. 88).

5 m. *Bernac Debat* Stat.

3 m. *Montgaillard* Stat.

5 m. **Bagnères de Bigorre** Stat. (Rte. 88).

ROUTE 82.

PAU TO CANFRANC IN SPAIN, BY OLORON AND THE VAL D'ASPE.

113 kilom. = 70 Eng. m.

Diligences daily to Oloron in 3 hrs. A well-kept carriage-road extends to the Col Somport, 3 m. beyond Urdos; farther on, a bridle-path.

The road as far as 5 m. the village of *Gan* (omnibus from Pau) is the same as Rte. 83; beyond that place it crosses the hills to

10 m. *Maison la Coste Belair.*

10 m. **Oloron.** (*Inns:* H. des Voyageurs, chez Loustalot, best; H. Condesse; Poste). This is a large and prosperous manufacturing town of 9086 Inhab., on the Gave d'Oloron, a river formed by the junction at this spot of the Gaves d'Ossau and d'Aspe. The oldest part of the town occupies the summit of the hill, and includes the *Ch. of Ste. Croix* (M. H.), 11th cent. A lofty stone bridge thrown across the stream unites Oloron with the suburb of St. Marie, containing 3900 Inhab. Its *Ch. of St. Marie* (M.H.) shows the transition from Romanesque to Gothic: it has a fine Romanesque portal, 12th cent.

The objects manufactured here are cloth, the chequered handkerchiefs so much in vogue as a head-dress among the peasantry of Aragon and Gascony, and also the berrets worn by the Béarnais. There is some trade in Spanish wool.

Rly. in progress N. to Lacq Stat. on the line from Orthez to Pau in Rte. 78.

Diligences go in summer to Eaux-Chaudes and Eaux-Bonnes, 23 m. (Rte. 83); to Urdos 25 m., and omnibus daily, 1 hr., to village of (6 m.) *St. Christau* (*Inns:* H. Grand Turk; H. Grand Mogol; H. de la Poste). Cold, sulphureous, and saline springs. Beautiful carriage-road to 12 m. *Louvie* (Route 83).

The *Val d'Aspe*, at the mouth of which Oloron stands, contains scenery of great beauty and boldness, though the mountains are not so high as in some other valleys in the Pyrenees. A gradual ascent along a good road leads up it, following the course of the stream. At *Asasp* the traveller is already in the heart of the mountains. The Gave is crossed 8 m. at Pont d'Escot, near which a doubtful Latin inscription, cut in the rock by the wayside, commemorates the first making of this road by the Romans, under one Vernus Valerius, a Duumvir; road on l. to Eaux Chaudes, finest scenery of the valley of Asasp.

2 m. *Sarrance Inn:* H. de France). Here are ruins of a convent to which Louis XI. made a pilgrimage.

8 m. *Bédous* (*Inn:* H. Poste, fair), last post-town in France, 1200 Inhab. Here the vale swells out into a basin shape. In the neighbouring village of *Osse* there is an isolated Protestant community of 30 families, who have preserved their faith for ages in the midst of Roman Catholics.

An Obelisk of marble has been reared

near the village of *Accous* (Aspa Luca) to the memory of Despourrins, the poet of the Pyrenees—their Burns, who was born here.

Grand defiles succeed to this basin; and in the midst the Pont d'Esquit, a bold arch, forms a fine object. Above Accous the road has been blasted out of the rock, and the scenery is very fine. 4 m. above Accous the Vale of Lescun (*Inn:* H. Cazou) opens (rt.) to S.W. It is well worth while to ascend the path up it, as far as the *Waterfall of Lescun*. The peasant who lives near it will guide the stranger to the best point of view, which he could not discover for himself readily.

After passing the villages of *Eygun* and *Etsaut* we reach a grand rocky defile, and perceive the fort of Urdos or Portalet, made to bar the passage up and down the valley. Near this Napoleon caused a road to be formed at vast expense, for the conveyance of timber for shipbuilding from the neighbouring forests.

The remarkable *Fort* of Urdos is hewn in the rock, within the shoulder of a hill, rising in a succession of stages to a height of 500 ft. The appearance of this mountain, from without, gives little indication of the long galleries, stairs, and batteries excavated in its interior. A small masonry façade, battlemented and flanked with bartezan turrets at the base of the hill, and some loopholes and embrasures for cannon pierced in the face of the cliff, explain, to those who are prepared for it, the nature of this outpost of France, which is the work of 10 years of excavating, and is capable of holding a garrison of 3000 men. Access is gained to it through a lateral gorge, after clearing which the road is carried in zigzags to the edge of a precipice, connected by a drawbridge spanning the abyss, with the rock on which the fort stands.

11 m. *Urdos* (*Inn:* H. des Voyageurs; fair), a poor village of 300 Inhab. (Forum Ligneum). A path over the Col d'Aule leads to (6 hrs.) *Gabas* (Rte. 83).

[*Excursion* to the *Lac d'Estains* (abundant coarse trout in Aug.), on a plateau about 6000 ft. above the sea, overhung by a grand mountain called Pic d'Aspe.]

In the valley to the rt. is *La Fonderie*, a copper-smelting furnace, supplied with ore from the neighbouring rocks.

7 m. *Paillette* (small *Inn*), the last place in France, is near the summit of the pass called the *Col de Somport* (Summus Portus), on the Roman road from Beneharnum to Cæsarea Augusta (Saragossa). Through this pass the armies of Abd-er-Rahman entered France. The view is very limited. Here is the frontier of Spain. The journey hence, as far as Jaca (32 m. from Urdos), must be performed on mules. Very fine scenery on the descent running along the river Aragon to

7 m. *Canfranc*, a whitewashed village, with a poor *Inn* (Beware of imposition). The highest summits in this part of the chain belong to Spain: l. the fine mass called Peña Colorada: it is 4 hours' walk (*Diligence* daily) to the town of Jaca (*Inn:* Posada del Esquidador).

ROUTE 83.

PAU TO EAUX-BONNES AND EAUX-CHAUDES—PIC DU MIDI D'OSSAU.

43 kilom. = 27 Eng. m. to the Eaux-Bonnes by the new road. Several *diligences* go daily from June to middle of Sept. in 5 hrs., returning in about 3½.

A voiture may be hired at Pau for the journey at the rate of 30 fr. a day: 40 fr. at the outside to Eaux-Chaudes. The road is very good, but up-hill most of the way.

After crossing the bridge over the Gave de Pau, the village of *Jurançon*, distinguished by its groves of fine oaks, is passed on the rt.; it is famed for its wine, perhaps the best in the Pyrenees. The vineyards producing it extend along the slopes from this to Gan.

Near Pont d'Oly a shed in the field covers a Roman pavement, discovered 1850. The well-wooded, verdant, shady valley, up which the road runs, is watered by the Néez, a clear stream rushing over the limestone rocks.

At the village of *Gan* (5 m. from Pau, *omnibus*), on the l., also locally famous for its wines, is seen an old *castellated house*, in which Pierre de Marca, the histórian of Béarn and Archbishop of Páris, was born 1594. Here the road to Oloron (Rte. 82) turns to the rt. Above, 4 m. *Rebénac* (*Inn:* H. du Périgord, good) rises its château on a hillock; and a little beyond, on the l., the copious source of the Néez bursts out of the rock, and is conveyed hence underground to supply Pau. A long and toilsome ascent leads up to the village of *Sévignac* (14 m. from Pau, 1800 ft. above the sea), situated on the top of the ridge separating the Néez and other streams flowing into the Gave de Pau from the tributaries of the Gave d'Oloron, flowing out of the Val d'Ossau, which we now enter. It here expands into the form of a basin, round which the Gave takes a wide turn, passing by the village of Arudy. In descending the wooded slope from Sévignac, several glimpses are afforded of the Pic du Midi d'Ossau, a grand object; but near the bottom of the hill, and as far as the Pont de Louvie, his cleft crest and precipitous cone appear in full majesty, filling up the vista at the extremity of the Val d'Ossau. This is a magnificent view on a clear day, but in advancing up the valley it is soon lost. Rocks and precipices of limestone now line the road, which is partly cut out of them. On their smooth surface, or in their narrow chinks, the box delights to fix itself. They furnish the slabs of black and grey marble with which the door-posts and lintels of even the humblest cottage are here adorned. The Gave d'Ossau is crossed at the end of the village of

17 m. *Louvie Juzon* (*Inn:* H. des Pyrénées). Here the road from Oloron (Rte. 82) to Les Eaux falls in; also a road which joins the railway between Pau and Lourdes.

The great transverse *Val d'Ossau*, or Valley of the Bear, about 10 m. long and nearly 2 m. wide, which we are now about to ascend, and in which the Eaux are situated, is one of the most interesting among the Pyrenees, for its picturesque beauties, and for the people who inhabit it. They still retain much of their ancient customs and costumes. The women are distinguished by the scarlet *capulet*, a sort of monk's hood, serving at once for bonnet and shawl, descending as far as the shoulders. Whether sitting or walking, and even when carrying burthens on the head, the spindle and distaff are never out of their hands. They are inferior in stature and features to the men, which may perhaps be owing to the hard and unfeminine labours which devolve upon them; it is common to see them holding the plough, and carrying sacks of manure on their heads, or spreading it over the land. The men, however, are not idle; they are absent on the high mountain pastures tending their flocks and herds, or following the hardy trade of woodcutters and charcoal-burners a great part of the year.

The men are chiefly distinguished by the wide cloth cap or *berret*, properly and most commonly of brown colour, which, overhanging the brow and assuming very picturesque folds, sits very becomingly on a head of hair allowed to grow thick and of even length all round the neck, but cut short in front. They wear short jackets and knee-breeches, also brown, the colour of the undyed wool of the sheep, and round the waist a brilliant red sash of silk or woollen is tied. To defend them from rain or cold they carry the white or brown *capa*, which resembles a sack, unseamed, on one side, pulled over the head.

Izards (chamois) are sometimes met with in the mountains around, the Pics d'Arcizet, de Gazie, and de Sesque, but their diminished numbers of late offer limited chances of sport. *Bears*, though not common, are sometimes killed, also wolves.

Flocks of sheep form the chief wealth of this valley; but as they are led up to the mountains in April, and do not return till the end of summer, they are seldom seen, except by those who traverse the high mountains. They are guarded by a remarkable breed of dogs of large size, very courageous, but often savage (see *Introd.* § 14), who protect the flocks from wolves and bears, whilst other dogs drive the flock, as the shepherd's dog of England and Scotland.

The rustic fêtes, dances, &c., still kept up in some parts of the Val d'Ossau, especially at Laruns (Aug. 15), are well worth seeing, as they collect some of the finest specimens of the men of the valley, and of its primitive costumes. They have a peculiar musical instrument called *tambourin*, a lyre or zithern of 6 strings, struck with a stick by one hand, while the other holds the rustic mountain flageolet.

Within a mile of Louvie the road passes on the opposite bank of the Gave, the ruins of *Castel Jaloux*, or *Geloz*, occupying the top of one of two little hillocks; the other, also anciently inclosed within its ramparts, is now crowned by a small chapel. This stronghold was the key of the Val d'Ossau, and residence of its viscounts in early times, while the valley formed a separate state, independent of Béarn.

The *Ch.* of the village of *Bielle*, the finest in the valley, is in the pointed style. There are Roman mosaics (discovered 1842) here.

A little before reaching the village of *Laruns* (24 m. from Pau) (*Inn:* H. des Touristes; H. des Etrangers, fair), one of the most considerable in the valley, a snow-white gash or scar, high up on the mountain-side to the l., marks the situation of the *white marble quarry* of Louvie Soubiron. It has been employed at Paris for the statues in the Place de la Concorde, and for the bas-reliefs on the front of the Madeleine.

The situation of Laruns, encircled by high peaks and ridges, which rise on all sides above it, is very striking: among them the distant Pic de Ger raises its conspicuous head. The *Church* appears originally to have had no windows larger than loopholes, though wider ones have been broken through in modern times: its font or bénitier, of white marble, is carved in the fashion of a basket, and within bears the inappropriate figures of mermaids.

On issuing out of Laruns one might suppose that he had arrived at the termination of the valley, so completely is it blocked up by the mass of the *Hourat;* but after crossing the furious and injurious winter torrent, the Larienzé, and reaching the mountain foot, two roads diverge; that on the l. to Eaux-Bonnes (2 m.), that on the rt. to Eaux-Chaudes (2¾ m.). During the season *omnibuses* run several times a day between Eaux-Bonnes and Eaux-Chaudes.

The shoulder of the mountain, which, as it were, laps over, and conceals from the view of those below the upper part of the Val d'Ossau, has been cut down, and scooped out, by blasting. The *road*, completed 1849, a very laborious work, is carried to Eaux-Chaudes directly through this gorge into the valley, and thus avoids the steep and awkward ascent and descent of the Hourat. After passing this gloomy portal, a sudden change of scene takes place. Before you opens out a lofty ravine of mountains, almost precipitous, rising from 1000 to 1500 ft. above your head, and approaching so close to one another at their base as to leave only space for the torrent below, here called Gave de Gabas, which chafes and tumbles from rock to rock, boring the limestone, by its whirlpools, into caldrons and pits. The deep fissure, at the bottom of which it takes its course, is well seen near the bridge, which transfers the road from its l. to its rt. bank.

The approach to the Eaux-Chaudes is grand; the height and steepness of the mountains, now robed from top to bottom in box-bushes, now starting out in lofty precipices of bare limestone, scarred by the course of torrents, which at times descend in long falls like white ribbons, and the variety imparted to the road by the projecting shoulders round which it winds, give

interest to this part of the journey. At length the last projection is doubled, and a view opens of the secluded group of houses called

3. m. **Eaux-Chaudes** (*Inns:* H. Baudot; H. de France; both very good. Dinner at 5; table-d'hôte 3 fr. 50 cents.; breakfast, with eggs, 1 fr. 50 cents.; tea 1 fr.; beds 2 fr. There are 6 or 7 other lodging-houses).

Eaux-Chaudes lies wedged in, as it were, in the midst of the long trough of the valley, between lofty precipices, 2215 ft. above the sea. The houses are built upon granite, which makes its appearance jutting up in a round boss behind the village. Many of the rocks are glacier-marked. The hot springs burst forth out of the granite, close to the junction of the limestone.

Notwithstanding the name, Eaux-Chaudes, the temperature of the waters is not so high as at many other Pyrenean springs, the hottest not exceeding 95° Fahr.; and one of them is cold. The principal sources are Lou Rey (le Roi), named from Henri IV., a frequent visitor, 92°, and L'Esquirette, 94°, the most frequented, and most highly mineralised. The waters are sulphureous, and are supplied from 6 springs, 3 of which, used for bathing, are conveyed into the bath-houses; the others, used for drinking, partly burst out from the rock into rude little basins, whither invalids resort to fill their glasses. The handsome *Établissement des Bains*, including pump-room, *billiard-room*, *café*, *reading-room*, and baths, chambers for the resident physician, and some sets of rooms for guests, has been constructed, at the expense of the Government and of the town of Laruns, on the platform of rock below the hotel. Into it the waters of 3 of the springs are conducted. The Eaux-Chaudes baths are resorted to, both by the real invalid in search of health, and the passing traveller attracted by the beauties of the situation, who will find these good headquarters for excursions. The season is from 1st July to 1st Sept.

Excursions.—Horses, 5 fr. a day; if to cross the Pyrenees 7 fr. Guides the same. Back fare is charged.

a. One of the first sights which travellers are invited to see at Eaux-Chaudes is the (3 m. S.) *Grotte*, situated in the rock on the l. side of the valley, 2 hours' walk there and back, above the baths, rather steep. It is well worth the trouble, and the lighting up of the subterranean cascade a very striking sight.

b. The village of *Goust*, 3000 ft. above the sea; ½ hr. by mule-path, curiously perched on the W. side of the valley.

c. To *Gabas* (5 m.) and ***Artigues* (8 m.). Carriages to Gabas 10 or 12 fr. The valley of Ossau is a frequented passage between France and Spain, along which 15,000 mules pass annually. Its scenery, above Eaux-Chaudes, is far grander and more varied in its mountain outlines and vegetation than below; and the whole range of the Pyrenees presents few more interesting rides than that to Gabas. The *fine near view* obtained, in proceeding thither, of the Pic du Midi d'Ossau, out of sight at Eaux-Chaudes, will alone well repay the fatigue. About ½ m. beyond Eaux-Chaudes the Gave is crossed by a stone bridge, called the Pont d'Enfer, above which, on the rt., a small cascade, named from the neighbouring but elevated hamlet of Goust, descends the mountain. In this portion of the valley the limestone has entirely given place to granite, which forms the substance of the mountains, and the vegetation which covers them is of unrivalled beauty and variety. It is at this point that we pass into the zone of fir-trees, whose dark files, covering the mountain tops, descend halfway, mixing like mourners in the crowd of trees of lighter foliage—birch, beech, hazel, alder, and oaks, which rise from amidst an undergrowth of box, mixed with a wonderful profusion of wild flowers. At times the road mounts to a great height above the torrent; and there is a fearful pleasure in looking down, over the tree-tops, upon its waters, writhing, struggling, and serpentining in the dark depths below.

Gabas is a poor hamlet (3657 ft.) the

last in France, having 2 small *Inns*, which will furnish a tolerable dinner, and where good Malaga wine may be had. At the extremity of the hamlet is the French custom-house station.

A steep mule-path turning to the rt., and following the S.W. branch of the valley, keeping the Pic du Midi on the l. hand, leads to the *Plateau of Bious Artigues* (4550 ft.), the first of the 3 plateaux of Bious, which commands a most magnificent view of the Pic du Midi. It is only 1¼ hr. from Gabas. From this point the traveller may proceed to *Urdos* (Rte. 82) in the Val d'Aspe, either by the *Col des Moines* (from which the views are the finest, but 3 hrs. longer) or by the *Col d'Aule* (4½ hrs.), to reach which turn sharp to the right from the plateau de Bious Artigues, cross the stream, and commence the ascent through a wood, on emerging from which follow the course of a little stream, which leads nearly to the top. Descend to some huts, cross the stream, follow its course for some way above its l. bank, then mount again to the l. and come out upon the Val d'Aspe immediately above Urdos. Fine views of the Pic du Midi during the ascent. 11 m. by road to *Bédous* (Rte. 82), whence there is a pass over the Col d'Ubareat to *Laruns* (Rte. 83).

From Gabas also the *ascent of the Pic du Midi* (9793 ft.) is made, following the rt.-hand branch of the valley above Gabas. It will take 11 hrs. to go and return, over rocks extremely steep. A bridle-road leads in 3 hrs.' walking to the base of the bare rocky crag. Hence to the top is 2 hrs.' constant climbing. The ascent of the difficult parts is now facilitated by iron clamps being fixed into the rock. The mountain view is singular. The most conspicuous object is the snowy Balaïtous to the E. Pau is visible to the naked eye. The S. side of the granite peak is a sheer precipice. It will be well to sleep at Gabas, where horses can be obtained and a good guide (Camy).

d. Should the traveller be disposed to take a peep into Spain, he may go from *Les Eaux-Chaudes* and Gabas, following the Gave de Brousset, and crossing the Col d'Ancou *to Panticosa*, an Arragonese watering-place. (Rte. 83A.)

e. Eaux-Bonnes may be reached in 4 hrs. by the *Col de Gourzi*, a steep mountain-path practicable for horses, commanding fine views. Keep well to the l., and beware of taking the paths striking off to rt.

f. The *Lac d'Artouste* (6 or 7 hrs.' walk), one of the largest and most picturesque lakes in the Pyrenees, may be reached by following up the valley of Sousoueou, which opens l. half-way between Eaux-Chaudes and Gabas. There are trout in the stream and in the lake. A night's shelter might be had in the shepherds' huts, ¾ hr. below the lake.

g. At the *Lac d'Aule* (4 or 5 hrs.' walk up a gorge to rt. of Bious Artigues) good fishing may be had, and cock-of-the-woods and izard are sometimes seen.

A fine road, opened 1861, leads direct from the bridge of Laruns to Eaux-Bonnes by a continuous gradual ascent, carried up in a terrace along the mountain side. On the l., low down, lies the castle of Espalunge; and higher up, on the shoulder of a mountain, the village d'Aas looks down upon our road. The stream flowing at the bottom of the valley is a tributary of the Gave d'Ossau, called the Valentin. At the very entrance of Eaux-Bonnes a narrow, rocky gully, with a torrent at its bottom, is crossed by a bridge. This stream is the contribution sent forth by the confined nook in which Eaux-Bonnes stands, partitioned off, as it were, from the vale of the Valentin by a ridge of rock of no great height, and concealed from view until you are about to enter it. Beyond the bridge above alluded to is the fashionable and much-frequented watering-place

5 m. **Les Eaux-Bonnes**, consisting of a street of 20 or 30 hotels and lodging-houses, of large dimensions and many storeys.

Inns: H. de France, chez Taverne Aîné (good, and civil landlord); H.

ascent steep and almost trackless: scenery wild rather than grand. Hence there are paths over the Port de Gavarnie N., and to Torla and Broto, in whose vicinity the Bouquetin it is said may be found. It is more than a day's journey to reach either place.]

Baths of Panticosa.	hr.	min.
Port or Col de Marcadau .	4	0
Pont d'Espagne	4	0
Cauterets	1	45
	9	45

From the Baths of Panticosa to Cauterets is about 10 hrs.' rough ride or walk, stoppages included. Though mules do cross, it is not safe to ride for the first 4 hrs. over the smooth granite rocks. There is no regular track up to the Col; and as it cannot be seen from the baths, it would scarcely be possible to find it without a guide. There is not a more desolate or rugged pass in the Pyrenees. The ascent begins immediately behind the hotel, and thence to the top is an almost continuous scramble over rocks steep as a staircase. About two-thirds of the way up a little lake is passed, and in the hollow near the Col snow is crossed. Many of the rocks are glacier-marked. The Col or *Port de Marcadaou* is a small depression in the range, the threshold of which is sharp as the ridge of a house, so that you literally step across it into France. The Col is 8800 ft. above the sea: the view from it is wonderfully wild and desolate, but is not very extensive. The descent is very steep, but not so rugged as the ascent. About half an hour from the top is a delicious spring, at which it is usual to rest. After about an hour's descent, comparatively level ground is reached, and the *Val de Jarret* or Marcadaou is followed; and in half an hour more some saw-mills, the only habitation between the Baths of Panticosa and Pont d'Espagne. A steep descent and another level brings us to *Pont d'Espagne*, the road from which to Cauterets is described in Rte. 85A.

ROUTE 84.

EAUX-BONNES TO ARGELEZ, CAUTERETS, OR LUZ.—ROUTE THERMALE.

42 kilom. = 27 m. to Argelez. The road is excellent, and the pass is one of great grandeur. *Diligence* daily in summer, in 5 or 6 hrs. to Argelez; carriage, three horses, 35 to 40 frs. This finely engineered carriage-road, *Route Thermale*, was completed in 1866, to connect these watering-places, and saves the long détour by Pau or Tarbes. It crosses the ridge to the N. of Col de Tortes. The road begins in a deep cutting, skirts round the Butte du Trésor, and passing in succession the 3 cascades formed by the Valentin, and rising to the Bridge d'Iscoo, leaves on rt. the cascade du Gros Hêtre: ascending by a series of zigzags to

8 m. *Col d'Aubisque* (5610 ft.).

4 m. through a short tunnel, by a shelf cut out of the face of the precipice, the road enters the Dept. of the Hautes Pyrenées, then rises again to surmount the *Col de Courel* (4760 ft.). Bending S. it is carried for more than a mile along the precipitous face of the Pic de Gabizos. It is cut into the side of the mountain; a mere shelf, from which one looks down into the valley below. It is a wonderful work, rivalling many Alpine roads, and most creditable to the reign of Napoleon III. A very long descent leads to

The *Chapel* of *Poey le Houn* (hill of the fountain), about 10 minutes' walk from *Arrens*. Fine views S. of the mountains at the head of the Val d'Azun, and especially of the snows of the *Pic de Balaïtous* (10,318 ft.) or Murmuret. The ascent of this mountain is difficult and seldom attempted. The route lies for 4 hrs. up the vallée d'Azun, to the cabanes of *Labasso*, where sleep; and then a stiff climb S.W. and up the E. side of the Pic; or the western route from *Eaux-Chaudes* may be taken, sleeping at the lake of

Artouste, then S. to the *Col d'Arremoulit*, and E. 2 hrs. to the summit.

6 m. *Arrens* (*Inn:* H. de France, primitive, kept by an intelligent ex-Douanier), is a village of 1298 Inhab., 2912 ft. above the sea, and the chief place in the Val d'Azun. The ch. is surrounded by a battlemented wall, and its doorway is curious.

Hence there is a good road by Marsous and Aucun, leaving Bun on rt., to Arcizans-Dessus.

8 m. *Argelez.* (See Rte. 85.)

It would be making a toil of a pleasure to attempt to reach Cauterets in 1 day from Eaux-Bonnes, at least on foot; especially as the road from Argelez to Cauterets is so magnificent, pleasing, and varied, that it alone deserves a day.

[Those who choose *the old bridle-path* (6 or 7 m. shorter than the carriage-road) will require 6 hrs. to Arrens over Col de Tortes and Col de Saucéde, and 3 thence to Argelez. Send round the baggage, and take provisions for the day. There is not a single auberge as far as Arrens. Beware of the shepherds' dogs, which are very savage hereabouts. On leaving Eaux-Bonnes, by the old mountain-road near the source, you traverse part of the mountain called Le Trésor. Keep the upper path, and, leaving the first bridge and cascade on your l., you come to a second bridge; pass it, keeping the torrent on your rt. The road is as yet well marked by horses, &c., and sufficiently steep. In 2 hrs. thence, on horseback, you can make the *Col de Tortes* (5901 ft.); although the path is not always very distinct. The descent on both sides is exceedingly steep, and would induce most persons to descend from their horses. Leaving the valley of Louzon on your l., keep under the Pic de Gabisos till you come to some châlets. The second Col (*Col de Saucéde*) is then right before you—a steep heathy mount. The descent from Col de Tortes and ascent of this Col takes 1¾ hr. Instead of descending at once from this Col to Arrens, it is best to keep for ½ an hour along the l. or N. side of the valley of Arvase, and not begin to bear downwards until the ridge rises; descending then to the village of Marsous. This path being on a terrace commands for about an hour noble views of the valleys of Azun and Argelez.]

ROUTE 85.

THE PYRENEES.

A. PAU, EAUX-BONNES, OR EAUX-CHAUDES TO CAUTERETS.
B. CAUTERETS TO LUZ.
C. LUZ TO GAVARNIE — BRÈCHE DE ROLAND.
D. LUZ TO BAGNÈRES DE BIGORRE OR LUCHON.

A daily communication by diligences is kept up in summer between all the principal watering-places of the Pyrenees.

Distances from Pau—to Cauterets, 68 kilom. = 42 Eng. m.; to Luz and St. Sauveur, 71 kilom. = 43¾ Eng. m.; to Baréges, 76 kilom. = 46¼ Eng. m.; to B. de Bigorre. The time for these excursions can now be much shortened, by proceeding from Lourdes, Tarbes, or Montrejeau, on the rly., open from Pau to Toulouse.

This route includes some of the most interesting objects and places in the Pyrenees; and the drive from Lourdes to Luz and Cauterets in particular is a continued succession of the most beautiful scenery.

A. *Pau, Eaux-Bonnes, or Eaux-Chaudes to Cauterets.*

The *Rly. from Pau to Lourdes* (24 m.) ascends the rt. bank of the Gave de Pau, through a plain of considerable width, nearly covered with maize and flax, and passes between vines festooned to apple and cherry trees. One village rapidly succeeds another, but there is something more interesting in the

varying forms of the mountains which the traveller is gradually approaching.

11 m. *Courraze-Nay* Stat. The old tower, crowning a mound on the rt. bank, is part of the *Castle* (M. H.) in which Henri IV. was confided from his early years to the care of Susanne de Bourbon, Baronne de Missans, and by the wisdom of his mother brought up in the rough fashion of the peasants of his native country, dressed like them, fed like them, sharing in their sports, and traversing the rugged rocks with bare feet; thus acquiring the vigour of body and strength of mind which enabled him to surmount in after-life so many hardships, dangers, and difficulties. Beside the ruin a modern château has been built. Fine view. On the l. bank of the Gave is *Nay*, (*Inn:* H. de France) the largest village (Pop. 3409) on the line, founded in the 12th cent. by Augustine monks. Fine *Ch.* of 15th cent. and old house (Maison Carrée) of time of Francis I. The *fez* is largely manufactured here and exported to Turkey. The Prot. theologian, Jacques Abbadie, was born here in 1654, and died in London.

5 m. *Moutaut-Bétharram* Stat. is 1 m. from

Lestelle (*Inns:* H. de France; H. Poste: fair country inns). The Gave, running in a contracted rocky bed, is here spanned by a bold arch most picturesquely draped with ivy. Outside of this village, at a spot hemmed in between a fine wooded hill, spotted with chapels or stations, and the river, stands *Bétharram*, a *Séminaire* for the education of missionaries, beautifully situated. The bridge (built 1687) is a favourite subject for artists. The *Ch.* (1615) is an ugly modern building, containing a statue of the Virgin reported to have miraculous powers, which attracts a multitude of devotees from a distance in the month of May. About 2 m. off, by a pretty walk along l. bank of Gave, is an extensive *Cavern.* Guide necessary.

Traversing a narrow defile which is hemmed in between barren bracken-covered hills, we pass into the Dépt. des Hautes Pyrénées, and from the ancient Béarn into Bigorre, shortly before entering the manufacturing town of

2 m. *St. Pé* Stat. (2541 Inhab.), on the Gave. It is chiefly inhabited by nailers, who obtain iron from the forges of Asson, and by comb-makers, who supply the Spanish ladies with combs of box-wood for their hair. It has a Romanesque *Church*, a fragment only, with apsidal terminations, and sculpture over the door. Much roofing slate is exported hence.

6 m. **Lourdes** Junct. Stat. (*Inns:* H. des Pyrénées; H. de France; H. Poste; H. Langlés—at the Stat.), 4714 Inhab., consists of a picturesque but somewhat gloomy-looking hill-fort, seated on a rock, around which the town of narrow dirty streets and shabby houses group themselves. This *Castle* (M. H.) was once the key of the valley of Lavedan, or of the Gave de Pau, commanding the 4 roads which unite here from Tarbes, Bagnères, Argelez, and Pau. It is reached by flights of stairs, and entered by a small drawbridge, and a door 4 feet high and only wide enough for one person to squeeze through; it is now used as a barrack. In 1804 Lord Elgin was incarcerated within it by Napoleon, who caused him to be seized in his journey through France from the East. Far different was its importance in ancient times: it was held for the English monarchs, and the Black Prince, as part of the country of Bigorre, which was ceded to the English by the French king John as part of his ransom, in conformity with the treaty of Brétigny. Froissart gives a very long account of its varied fortunes, which render this feudal fortress interesting. In 1369, not very long after the visit of the Black Prince, Lourdes was actually attacked by the French army commanded by the Duc d'Anjou, and at the end of 16 days the town was won; but the enemy made no impression on the citadel above, which bade defiance for six weeks longer to all efforts to take it. The governor remained true to his oath to the Prince of Wales to guard his stronghold, and resisted the

offer of a large sum from the Duc d'Anjou to deliver it up. Another attempt was made to induce this faithful châtelain to betray his trust, by Gaston Phœbus, who invited him to his castle of Orthez: Before setting out, however, Pierre Arnaut confided his stronghold to his brother Jean, who took the same oaths of fidelity. Gaston, irritated at the stedfast honesty of Arnaut in refusing his proposal to yield up the castle, in a brutal fit of rage stabbed him in 5 places with his poignard, and thrust him into a dungeon, where he perished. The atrocious crime availed him not; for Jean, the brother of his victim, proved as trusty a governor and skilful a captain as the murdered Pierre.

Beyond the Gave, at a short distance, is the *Grotto de la Vierge* or *de Massavielle* (café-restaurant near it), which has become a place of pilgrimage since 1858, in consequence of the declaration of a girl Marie Bernardette Soubirous, that the Virgin had several times appeared to her. The girl subsequently became ill, and is or was taken care of by the Ursuline nuns of Nevers. In 6 months of 1859, 150,000 persons visited the Grotto. The spring which is said to have burst forth out of the rock after the apparition is pronounced to have miraculous healing powers, though chemical analysis has shown that it is only wholesome water, containing no deleterious ingredients. An early Gothic *Ch.* of no merit, lined inside with ex-votos, built over the cave 1868, is seen from the Rly., and a convent has been established.

[*Railway* to Tarbes, 12 m. (Rte. 88), and thence to Bagnères de Bigorre, 14 m.; but many will prefer driving by the high road from Lourdes, by Argelez to Bagnères de Bigorre, to enjoy the beauties of the scenery.]

Lourdes, now that it is reached by rlys. on every side, will be the best starting-point for the watering-places of Cauterets, St. Sauveur, Baréges, Eaux-Chaudes, Eaux-Bonnes, and for the numerous sites in the valleys of Azun, Gavarnie, and conveyances for all these places will be found at the rly. station; whilst Bagnères de Luchon, and the valleys of the Adour and Campan will be more easily reached from Bagnères de Bigorre station.

From Lourdes the *Branch Rly.* to (14 m.) *Pierrefitte* turns S., and we are soon in the heart of the mountains, but the valley continues for some time stern, rocky, and bare; showing marks in its gashed sides and rock-strewn bottom of the fury of the torrents; the road ascending the valley of Lavedau by *Geu* and *Vidalos*.

This unpromising vestibule, however, leads into what has not unjustly been called the Paradise of Argeles, where the valley expands into a wide basin renowned for its picturesque beauty, fertility, and cultivation, and ranking among the finest in the Pyrenees. This altered scene opens out to view after passing the widely conspicuous dismantled tower of Vidalos, which, rising in the midst of the valley upon a monticule, conceals the village behind it.

Rich maize crops or verdant pastures occupy the bottom, interspersed with orchards; but the tilled land extends far up the slopes, and the grand mountains around are clothed with forests, the whole scattered over with houses and villages. In the midst of this lies the pretty town of

9 m. **Argelès** Stat. (*Inn:* H. de France, first-rate; clean and reasonable), Pop. 1698, standing 1575 ft. above the sea-level, but, from its sheltered situation, enjoying a climate where winter tarries so short a while that its presence is scarcely perceived. In summer, however, it is intensely hot. Goître and crétinism are very prevalent about Argelez.

[The *Val d'Azun*, opening out on the W. opposite Argelez, and extending up into the central chain between the Pic du Midi d'Azun and Pic de Gabisos, includes some very fine scenery, and will be well worth exploring. A very remarkable carriage-road, *la Route Thermale*, runs up it to Eaux-Bonnes (Rte. 84).

A pleasant walk or ride, from Argelez

to Ges, Serres, Salluz, and Ouzous, will unfold beautiful mountain scenery.]

rt. Beyond Argelez, the ch. and remains of the ancient *Abbey of St. Savin*, on the site of a Roman villa (Palatium Æmilianum), endowed by Charlemagne, destroyed and rebuilt 945, long sequestrated, but now restored, high up on the hill, are passed. The view from the convent-garden is beautiful, and the restored *Church* (M. H.), a remarkable Romanesque building, has a nave of 11th cent., marble pillars and rude capitals (? 7th cent.), octagon spire of 14th. A little way off is the chapel of *la Pietad*, said to be of 8th or 9th. On the opposite side of the valley of Argelez is the *Château of Beaucens*, one of the finest ruins in the Pyrenees, restored in 1855. It is carefully preserved by the Fould family, to whom it now belongs. Higher up, in the *Ravin d'Isabil*, is a picturesque fragment of the *Hermitage de St. Orens*, one of the few bits of pure Gothic in this part of the Pyrenees. From Argelez the road ascends along the united streams descending from Cauterets and Gavarnie to

4 m. **Pierrefitte**-*Nestalas* terminus Stat. (*Inn:* H. La Poste, excellent and reasonable; H. des Pyrénées). This village (1663 ft.), whose population seems to live by begging, much to the traveller's annoyance, is the centre from which the roads to Cauterets, to St. Sauveur, and Baréges diverge. The old *Ch.* of the village of Soulom, on the opposite bank of the Gave de Cauterets, has a curious covered gallery at its W. end, intended for defence.

Pierrefitte is seated at the foot of a lofty and conspicuous mountain, which seems to block up the passage, and which, in fact, gives rise to 2 minor valleys. The road to Luz, Baréges, and St. Sauveur runs up that on the l., and the way to Cauterets is on the rt. of the mountain. The highest point of the ridge dividing the valley of Cauterets from that of Luz is named the Pic du Midi de Viscos, 7030 ft. above the sea-level.

The whole way to Cauterets lies through a narrow gorge, where the cheerful beauty of the lower valley gives place to savage grandeur. A good carriage-road, which took 4 years to complete, is carried through it, rising immediately behind Pierrefitte, before it penetrates into the defile, in well-contrived zigzags, either elevated on terraces of masonry or cut out of the hard rock: it is a fine work of engineering. A portion of the old way remains, and serves as a short cut for the pedestrian, whence he may survey to advantage the mouth of the narrow gorge, in the depths of which the torrent struggles along. It is a rent burst through vertical strata of slate, yet, except where its sides are absolutely perpendicular, they are either carpeted with bright patches of green meadow or covered with trees and brushwood, among which the hazel thrives. At a short distance from the mouth of the gorge, the view, looking back upon the vale of Argeles, is peculiarly beautiful, from the contrast of rugged, gloomy wildness in the foreground, with the sunny richness beyond of groves, pastures, and corn-fields. Near the middle of the pass, which may recall to the Swiss traveller some features of the Via Mala, the road surmounts in a series of graceful curves a bed of limestone or marble, called *Butte de Limaçon*, which stretches across the valley like a dam. Over this the Gave tumbles in a long rapid, which frets its waters into foam as white as snow. To this succeeds a slight opening in the valley, and a tall pointed mountain appears at its extremity, clad in firs: at its foot lies Cauterets; though intervening hills conceal it from view until the road reaches close upon it.

7 m. **Cauterets** (*Inns:* H. de France, "one of the best in the Pyrenees;" H. d'Angleterre, also excellent; H. des Ambassadeurs; H. des Princes, clean, well-regulated, with moderate charges; H. Richelieu; H. du Parc).

There are tables-d'hôte twice a day at the principal inns, and families may be supplied with meals in their rooms by a traiteur. The *Guides* are of 3

classes: those for difficult ascents, and those for the neighbourhood. They must produce the tarif. *Carriages* 20 to 25 fr. the day.

Cauterets, though in a spot so remote and elevated (3254 ft. above the sea), with savage mountains encircling it, and overhanging its roofs with their peaks and pine forests, has a perfectly townish air, with an octroi at its entrance, paved streets of inns and lodging-houses, and in the centre an irregular market-place. It is one of the chief watering-places of the Pyrenees, containing 250 houses, 1300 permanent Inhab.,—abounding in agents, guides, horse-jobbers, and itinerant marchands, who beset the traveller the moment he sets foot within it. The number of houses is about 200; most of them have the door-posts, window-sills, and thresholds of grey marble, and over every other door is emblazoned "Chevaux ou voitures à louer." Invalids repairing to Cauterets to take the waters must address themselves to the government medical inspector, who will inscribe their names in a book, and allot to them an hour for taking the bath, to remain fixed during the whole of their stay, with a chaise à porteur to convey them if required. Cauterets is a watering-place of ancient resort; the Kings of Navarre, Queen Marguerite, sister of François I., repaired hither with her court and poets, and here she wrote her 'Heptameron,' after the manner of Boccaccio.

Omnibuses four-in-hand convey the bathers and drinkers to the Raillère, about a mile off.

The chief building is the modern pump-room or *Établissement des Bains* near the foot of the hill, to receive the waters of the source called *les Espagnols*, one of the most powerful and hottest in the Pyrenees. It is so named from its having at an early period, according to tradition, cured the ailments of a king of Aragon, or from being much frequented by Spaniards, who cross the mountains in great numbers to repair hither. The new building is supplied with water in pipes carried down the slope of the hill of Perraute, from the source, situated at a considerable elevation, where the old bath-house stands. The bathing apparatus and accessories are constructed on the most approved plan dictated by the experience of modern science. The older bath-houses in the same direction are little better than wretched sheds, approached by paths so steep and stony as to require much exertion on the part of the robust to surmount; yet up them the invalid was formerly compelled either to toil on foot or be carried in a chaise à porteur.

The *Mineral Springs* here are sulphureous and hot, varying only in the quantity of the same ingredients and in warmth from 102° to 140° Fahr. There are 11 distinct sources, six of which rise on the hill of Perraute, above the town to the E., and the remainder are situated higher up the valley, on the banks of the Gave, from 1 to 1½ m. distant. They are said to present, in their strength, warmth, and qualities an epitome of almost all the sulphureous sources scattered over the Pyrenees; some of them being even more powerful than those of Baréges, others as mild as those of St. Sauveur. The principal springs on the banks of the Gave, and the one most resorted to, is *La Raillère*, whose waters are received in a building of some pretensions, faced with a portico, on a raised terrace, at the foot of a granitic mountain, destitute of trees or verdure, but covered over with fallen blocks of stone, which descend its slopes in dreary ruin. From 6 to 8 in the morning all the world of Cauterets repairs to this desolate spot, and during the height of the season bathers assemble here at a much earlier hour, even at 4 in the morning. The road is thronged with sour-faced invalids; open sedan-chairs upon poles, covered with a canvas hood, of which 50 or 60 are kept in the town, hurry to and fro, occupied by muffled females; peasant women in red capulets mingle with Paris dandies in white berrets and red Béarnese sashes (à la mode des Bains): black ecclesiastics in broad-brimmed hats, Capuchin monks in the brown woollen costume of their order, and

Spaniards of swarthy olive-coloured visage and stately gait, their heads swathed in mottled handkerchiefs, their persons muffled up in the embozo of their cloaks, which are often no better than horsecloths, offering a singular combination of dignity and poverty,—such are the component parts of the motley and picturesque crowd which repairs daily to La Raillère. There are 23 Cabinets des Bains, with 2 douches and a fountain for drinking.

Above the Raillère is a group of other springs and a cluster of little bath-houses, built one above another against the hillsides: the principal are the *Bain du Pré*, beneath a stream of fallen rocks, grown over with lichens, Petit St. Sauveur, Mahourat, B. des Œufs, and des Yeux. The *Source de Montmorency* is a sort of grotto, whose waters, too hot for the hand to bear, deposit a white, greasy slime; and the *Bain du Bois*, the highest in this direction, contains 4 cabinet baths, with a douche in each, and beds for the invalid who may desire to encourage the perspiration produced by the bath, and 2 piscines or large baths in common: the charge for one is 20 sous.

July and August are the *season* when Cauterets is most resorted to: lodgings are perhaps dearer than anywhere else in the Pyrenees; poorly furnished rooms sometimes costing as much as 5 or 6 fr. each per diem.

There is a subscription reading-room or club (*Le Cercle*) here.

Several formal avenues and alleys on the outskirts of the town, by the side of the road to Pierrefitte, and the Parc on the margin of the Gave, satisfy the wants of French visitors as promenades, but will appear wearisome to English: indeed, except in the society of friends, or with the inducement of regaining health, to make one tarry, the attractions at Cauterets are few.

The Grange de la Reine, an humble farm, so called from Queen Hortense, the mother of Napoleon III., having once been belated in crossing the mountains, and having passed the night there, is a good point of view for the basin of Cauterets, about 600 ft. above it. The mountain called *Pic de Monné* commands a far more extensive and very striking view, but it is a serious mountain to climb; requiring 5½ hrs. up and 4 down.

The sportsman may be interested in knowing that the rivers abound in trout, and that the chase of the izard and the bear may be pursued on the neighbouring mountains between the Vignemale and the Pic du Midi d'Ossau, with some prospect of success at the latter end of spring. These wild animals are, however, becoming rare even in these their last retreats. Jean Destapins is a capital guide and chasseur.

Chaises à porteur cost 15 fr. a day, and 3 fr. pourboire to the porteurs, who are very agile and sure-footed; ladies are often carried by them as far as the Lac de Gaube. Good *horses* may be hired, and are let out by the day without a guide at 4 or 5 frs.

Nobody thinks of quitting Cauterets without making the excursion to the **Pont d'Espagne* and ***Lac de Gaube*. There is a bridle-road all the way, well marked, but steep at its farther extremity. The excursion may be performed without a guide and on foot, though those who wish to save time will mount a horse. It will require about 2 hrs.' good walking to reach the Pont d'Espagne, and 1 hr. more thence to the Lac de Gaube: the return will be effected in less time.

Passing the source de la Raillère, and other springs and baths already mentioned, and winding along the Val de Jerez between the mountains of Perraute and Peyrénère, whose sides are strewn with fallen rocks, the path ascends by the margin of the Gave, through a wild narrow valley, the lower parts of the mountains bounding it wooded at first with trees and bushes, and afterwards with pine forests, while the upper parts rise in bare precipices, serrated peaks, and pointed pinnacles of granite.

The torrent leaps down from the upper to the lower slopes of the valley in several fine *falls*, the best of which is the cascade of *Cerizet*, where travel-

lers usually dismount and scramble down into a rude scene of rocks, wood, and water. Before this, the road winds through a wild spot called "Le Grand Chaos," consisting of immense blocks of limestone fallen from above.

About 6 m. from Cauterets (2 hrs.' walk) is the *Pont d'Espagne* (5150 feet above the sea), in itself a simple structure of pine-trunks thrown across the torrent, here confined in a narrow chasm between rocks, just below the juncture of the Gave descending from the Lac de Gaube with that from the Marcadaou; refreshment may be had a few yards above the Pont. The streams unite by leaping together into the chasm under the bridge, in picturesque *Falls*, but of no great magnitude. They are best seen about 20 or 30 yards on the path leading into Spain. These are but accessories to the sublime scene around, which, from the predominance of black fir forests, surrounded by granite cliffs shooting upwards in spires and pinnacles, somewhat resembles a scene in Norway.

[The valley above the Pont d'Espagne, called Val de Jeret, continues of great grandeur, and is traversed by a path on the l. bank of the stream leading by the Marcadaou pass (8800 ft.) to the baths of Panticosa in Spain (8 to 9 hrs.' walk). (See Rte. 83A.) It will be well worth while to ascend the Marcadaou Pass (3 to 3½ hours' walk from Pont d'Espagne), even if the tourist does not cross into Spain, as far as the frontier, as the view towards Spain is magnificent.]

To reach the *Lac de Gaube* turn to the l. close to the Pont d'Espagne. Immediately above it turn aside over another small wooden bridge, called Pont de Joseph, and, alighting at a small hut or cabaret, you gaze down from a green knoll upon a magnificent fall, "La Cascade," the whole body of water discharged from the Lac de Gaube, tumbling from a considerable height. Returning over the bridges, take the l. hand very steep path, which strikes up the mountain side through the pine wood, and at first by the side of a torrent, and over some patches of boggy ground. After about ¾ hour's walk (2 m.) over trunks and roots and shattered stones, you reach this lonely basin of green water. It is not more than 2½ m. in circumference, 5866 ft. above the sea-level, and 300 or 400 (?) ft. deep. The steep precipices on either side are bare, except where seamed with lines of straggling black firs, alternating with streams of fallen rocks; but the entire centre of the picture is filled with the noble mass of the *Vignemale*, one of the highest mountains in France, white with eternal snow, crowned by crags and by glaciers which feed the lake through a small fall. The fisherman's hut which serves as a restaurant (furnishing lake trout for the hungry traveller's breakfast at a high rate) is planted upon a ridge of granite, stretching across the valley, and damming up the waters of the lake. A better restaurant has been built by the town of Cauterets. A bed may be had here. On a projecting rock a little *monument of white marble*, railed in, is the record of the melancholy fate of a young Englishman, named Pattison, and his wife, who, within one month of their marriage, were drowned in the lake. They had trusted themselves in the wretched skiff to row across the lake; and it is supposed to have been accidentally overset, for no human eye beheld the accident. A lying romance, grafted on their sad story, destitute of all truth, is sold on the spot—let no one buy it.

The *ascent of the Vignemale* is sometimes made from the lake, which is either crossed in a boat, or skirted by the path on the l. The clue to the ascent is the Gave, which forms the waterfall at the extremity. Following its bank, we ascend in succession, in the course of 1½ hour's walk, 5 different stages or steps of the mountain, each of which the torrent clears by a leap. The mass of the mountain is of limestone, which here overlies the granite prevailing from La Raillère to the Lac de Gaube. The Gave has its origin in the foot of a glacier stretching nearly

up to the top of the mountain. Its crest is topped by 3 detached peaks. The Pic Longue, 10,820 ft. above the sea, is the 4th highest in the Pyrenees. The view is said to extend into Spain and over a large part of the French portion of the chain. This excursion cannot be performed without the aid of experienced guides.

[There is a difficult mountain path among broken rocks and the débris of glaciers, from the Lac de Gaube over the shoulder of the Vignemale, keeping that mountain on the rt., through the *Col or Port d'Ossoue* (9000 ft.) and down the *Val d'Ossoue* to Gavarnie. It will require 8 or 10 hrs., and should not be undertaken without good guides, being one of the most difficult pedestrian expeditions in the Pyrenees.]

B. *Cauterets to Luz.*

Cauterets.
6 m. Pierrefitte (good Inn).
8 m. Luz.
1 m. St. Sauveur.

The course usually taken by persons proceeding to Baréges, or Gavarnie, from Cauterets, is to retrace their steps down the valley as far as Pierrefitte (see above), and thence ascend by a good road the gorge leading up to Luz, a drive of about 3 h. (carriage and 2 horses, 15 fr.).

The defile leading from Pierrefitte to Luz is truly magnificent, differing from that of Cauterets, being rather less gloomy, but scarcely inferior. It abounds in rich foliage throughout. The modern road, made with much engineering skill, is alternately a shelf cut with vast labour out of the rock, or a terrace built up with masonry; with an abyss under foot, and towering masses over head. It crosses the Gave by bridges several times before reaching Luz. At length the gorge opens into a basin-shaped vale, remarkable for its rich carpet of verdure, cultivated in patches, having little villages planted a considerable way up its sides, until fields give place to forests. The mountains by the separation leave space for a small triangular plain, entered by a narrow defile at each of its angles. On the S.W. opens that of Gavarnie, at the mouth of which lies *St. Sauveur*, on the S.E. that of the Bastan leading to Baréges, guarded at its mouth by the *Castle of Ste. Marie*, built by the Eng. in the 14th cent. From both of these issue Gaves which, meeting in the midst of the plain, escape by its third or N. angle through the defile leading to Pierrefitte, and traversed by the carriage-road. At the upper end of the plain, between the defiles of Gavarnie and Baréges, at the foot of a lofty mountain called Pic de Bergons, lies the little village of Luz. An avenue of formal poplars traverses the verdant flat meadows, gushing with rills of water, to which they owe their emerald tints and rich crops of grass, and leads into

8 m. **Luz** (*Inns:* H. de l'Univers; H. des Pyrénées. Grandet's lodging-house). Pop. 1671. This or *St. Sauveur* will be the best headquarters for an expedition to Gavarnie and Baréges.

It is a cleanly village (2410 ft.), situated on a Gave of rapid flow: to the refreshing stream of one of its tributary brooks, under the inn windows, horses and pigs repair to bathe all day long. The pigs in particular seem to have acquired unwonted habits of cleanliness in this country, and to enjoy excessively the ablutions administered by the swineherd, who bastes them with a wooden ladle.

The *Ch. of Luz* (M. H.), inclosed within a castle furnished with battlements and loopholed walls, is a great curiosity, bearing as it does the mixed character of the order of the Templars —half monks, half soldiers—by whom it was founded. They were planted here to guard the frontier in troublous times, forming an outpost of Christians against the Saracens at first, and Spaniards afterwards. The ch., entered by a machicolated gate under a projecting turret, is a building of the 13th cent. The carved doorway, and the line of straight-sided arches, running round the E. end on the outside,

deserve notice; also a *small doorway* on the S. side, now walled up, through which alone, according to tradition, the proscribed race of *Cagots* were allowed to enter the ch., where they occupied a chapel apart from the rest of the congregation. A good deal of the so-called crêpe de Baréges is made at Luz.

The knoll behind Luz, crowned with a modern chapel founded by the Ex-Empress of the French, and called *Chapelle Eugénie*, dedicated to St. Peter of Solferino, commands a very pleasing view, looking down into a valley on either hand, and is easily accessible. A path will be found to descend on the opposite side to St. Sauveur.

It is not more than 1 m. by the level road from Luz to the

Baths of St. Sauveur, a narrow street of white *Inns* (*H. de France; H. des Princes, both good; H. de Paris; H. des Bains) and lodging-houses planted on a narrow terrace or ledge, on the top of a rocky cliff, about 200 ft. above the Gave on its l. bank, and just within the jaws of the romantic and beautifully wooded defile leading to Gavarnie. A pretty Gothic *Church* has been built since 1860, and, in combination with the noble *Bridge*, has greatly improved the aspect of the place.

In the middle of the village are the *Baths* (Établissement Thermal), one of the handsomest in the Pyrenees, containing 14 or 16 bathing-rooms supplied from springs of sulphureous water, resembling those of Cauterets, but less warm, and less rich in gas. They are considered efficacious in female complaints, nervous affections, &c. Thus the greater number of invalids here are ladies, while at Baréges the male sex predominates. Being weaker than those of Baréges, a course of them is recommended as a good preparation for the stronger waters of Baréges.

The name St. Sauveur is said to be derived from an inscription placed over the healing source by a bishop of Tarbes, at what period is unknown: —"Vos haurietis aquas de fontibus Salvatoris."

The carriage-road up the valley from St. Sauveur has, since 1861, been carried across the ravine by a *Bridge* of a single arch 216 ft. above the stream, a noble work of engineering, and a very picturesque object. The late Emperor Napoleon III. laid the first stone of it in 1860: it cost 300,000 frs.

At St. Sauveur, as well as at Luz, guides and horses may be had at the usual charges. Martin is a capital guide, and has good horses. *A Tariff for Guides and Horses* has been established by the authorities of this valley, and should be asked for by the tourist.

The summit of the *Pic de Bergons*, the hill behind Luz and opposite St. Sauveur, 6791 ft. above the sea, is one of the best points of view among the Pyrenees, and one of the most accessible, since even ladies may *ride* up without difficulty, or be carried in a chaise à porteur. About 3 hrs. are required to reach the summit, and 2 to descend. From the top may be seen the Cirque of Gavarnie, the Brèche de Roland, and Tours de Marboré, and the more distant and loftier Mont Perdu to the S.; to the W. the Vignemale; to the E. the sterile valley of Baréges, and the Pic du Midi; to the N. the Vale of Lavedan and the plains beyond it.

The *Pic de Viscos* is also easily ascended in 3¼ hrs. and will well repay the trouble. The *Pic d'Aubiste* requires 4 hrs., but affords a fine view.

There is a path, not easy to find without a guide, over the mountains from St. Sauveur to Cauterets: the journey will take 5 hrs. on foot; but the high road (already described) is much grander in scenery, and good all the way, though it makes a wide détour.

C. *Luz to Gavarnie—Brèche de Roland—Mont Perdu.*

13 m. to Gavarnie: 3 hrs.' drive; good carriage-road as far as Gavarnie, thence horse-path to the Cirque 2 m. *Omnibus* daily to Gavarnie from H. de l'Univers.

The road runs up the rt. bank of the Gave, and, leaving St. Sauveur on

the rt., is soon joined by the road from that place which crosses the Gave by the magnificent *Bridge* of one arch.

The valley of the Gave de Gavarnie, at whose mouth stands St. Sauveur, contains some of the most striking scenery in the Pyrenees, and terminates in the most remarkable of those *Oules* or *Cirques* peculiar to the Pyrenees, and already described (see *Preliminary Information*, § 4). It takes 4 hrs. to walk; no guide is needed as far as Gavarnie, thence up to the Brèche one is indispensable. The grand scenery of the defile begins at once:—umbrageous woods alternating with precipitous rocks — mountain peaks of picturesque form rear their heads aloft; below gapes a confined chasm. The road is cut in the face of a rocky precipice, down which the eye gazes 300 or 400 ft., sheer into the green and frothy river, within the half-opened fissure below. One difficult pass around an angular shoulder of the mountain is called *Pas de l'Echelle*, because, before the present road was cut, it could only be traversed by a hazardous stair, descending on one side and ascending on the other. Here the peasants of Bigorre defeated a force of Miquelites (Spanish troops), who invaded the frontier for the last time in the wars of Louis XIV., 1708. There are ruins, down in the hollow, of an old fort called *Escalette*. Many small falls are passed and torrents crossed by high and narrow bridges, suspended over deep gulfs: many of the watercourses are bestridden by mills, not much larger than boxes; a row of such, close together, seen on the hillside, look like beads on a white string. At Pont de Sia 3 bridges cross the stream.

Twice the valley expands, into the basins of Pragnères and Gèdre, but it is more often contracted by narrow defiles. On approaching the village of Gèdre, from the hill above it there is a fine view, for a short space, of the snowy mountains called Tours de Marboré, and of the Brèche de Roland, a gap in the wall of rock which crests the mountain, looking like a notch made in a jaw by the loss of a tooth. It was cut through, according to the legend, by Roland, the brave Paladin, with his trusty blade Durandal, to open a passage in pursuit of the Moors. To the rt. of it the false Brèche, a similar gap, is seen, They both lie immediately above the Cirque of Gavarnie, and are soon lost to view behind intervening mountains, as the valley curves, and they are invisible from the Cirque itself. At

8 m. *Gèdre* there is a small *Inn*, and a sight scarcely worth notice, though travellers are invited to see it and pay, called *Grotte de Gèdre*. It is an imperfect arch, formed by the torrent scooping out the rock, partly grown over with creeping shrubs.

[The opening on the l., behind Gèdre, through which the torrent issues, is the mouth of the *Val de Héas*, one of the largest and deepest valleys which penetrate the granitic region of the Pyrenees, containing fine wild scenery, and terminating in the Cirque de Troumouse, situated a little to the E. of that of Gavarnie. In coming from Luz the valley is entered by a road turning to the l., on the height which precedes the village of Gèdre. It keeps up on the slope for some distance, then ascends along the rt. bank of the Gave, under the shade of fine trees, ashes and sycamores. The torrent descending on the l. from the Cambiel is next crossed on a bridge; a sombre gorge succeeds, leading to the

5 m. village of *Héas* (*Inn:* chez Paget; homely and small, 2 beds). Héas is remarkable for its *chaos* of granite blocks, about 4 m. from Gèdre, which have fallen from the mountain above, across the valley, and resemble that of Peyrada, described farther on. This land-slip took place in 1650, blocked up the torrent, and formed a lake behind it, which lasted until 1788, when its waters broke out, inundating the valley below.

Here is the *Chapelle de la Vierge d'Héas*, 4910 ft. above the sea-level, resorted to yearly between the 15th of August and the 18th of September, by hosts of pilgrims from afar, who

come to worship and kiss her miraculous image, which is dressed in gold-embroidered stuffs, and hooded with the red capulet of the country.

Excursions.—a. Nearly due S. of Héas opens out a valley which ends in the *Cirque de Troumouse*, a semicircular wall of precipitous mountains, inclosing a verdant plain. It is larger than Gavarnie, but not so imposing, yet deserves to be visited. It takes 2 h. 30 m. to go, and 1 hr. 30 m. to return; part of the way is a bridle-path.

b. The *Mont Perdu* may be ascended from Héas by the Cirque d'Estaubé and the Port de Canaou (about 5 hrs.). It will require a day.]

The excellent road to Gavarnie from the village of Gèdre skirts in zigzag the flanks of the mountain Coumélie, between hedges of box, and after passing the Cascade de Sausse, on the opposite side of the ravine, soon reaches the *Chaos* or *Peyrada*, an éboulement or slip of masses of gneiss fallen from above, so extensive that it looks as though a mountain had tumbled to pieces. It is a grand and savage scene. The road winds through a perfect labyrinth of blocks, many of them as big as a house, and far larger than the Cumberland Bowder stone, piled one above another in extreme confusion. These fragments sweep down to the Gave, and partly conceal it; their fall must have occurred long ago, from the lichens which cover their surface, and was probably produced by the action of the atmosphere, especially of frost, so powerful an agent in fracturing and disintegrating the slaty structure of the gneiss. Beyond the Chaos the road passes under the base of the Pimené, a picturesque mountain, rising on the l. to a height of 9384 ft.

In passing the Pont de Barregui the peaks and glaciers of the *Vignemale* are disclosed to view for a short time, at the extremity of the Val d'Ossoué (Rte. 85A), up which runs the mountain path to Cauterets by the Lac de Gaube.

Gavarnie is a poor village, 4380 ft. above the sea-level, with a rough *Inn* (kept by Belou, capital board and fair lodging), which will be found good headquarters for several excursions; it is kept by civil people, and is a convenient sleeping-place for those who ascend the Brèche. Best *Guides*, Henri and Hippolyte Parret; should they be out of the way, Pierre, the *Garde forestier*, to be heard of at Belou's inn: they receive 10 fr. a day when employed several days together—more for a single excursion. Magnificent view from the meadow before the inn, and on descending the torrent.

The *Pimené*, more than 9000 ft., may be ascended from this in 4 hrs. Easy ascent and splendid view.

The modernized *Church* contains 12 skulls, supposed to be of Templars beheaded in the reign of Philip le Bel; such is the tradition, the Order certainly had a commandery in this desolate spot.

Behind Gavarnie rise the black walls of the **Cirque de Gavarnie** (the best time for seeing which from the village will be near sunset), surmounted by eternal snows, shutting in the valley. It appears close to the village, and the stranger will scarcely believe that he has 4 m. to trudge or ride, which will take nearly an hour, before he can reach it. The scenery of the Cirque is considered by some the most striking in the Pyrenees, and the most peculiar. 3 shallow, basin-shaped hollows, partly strewn with stones, partly carpeted with grass, seemingly at one time lake basins, are passed, before you surmount the small projecting wall of rock which masks the entry to the Cirque, and once, doubtless, dammed up the waters of the Gave. Here, shut out from the world, and, as it were, arrived at its end, one gazes on the vast semicircle of rocks around, the tall rampire of a kingdom, at the base of which France terminates. The precipices forming its sides, varying in height from 1000 to 1400 ft., are divided into 3 or 4 stages, upon each of which a glacier, covered with snow, is heaped: not a scrap of vegetation relieves their bare sides. Down

the vertical faces of the rocks stream 12 or 15 thin cascades, like white threads; but there is one on the l. hand, where the precipice is least interrupted, which falls in one white cord, only twice broken by ledges, 1380 ft. high: it is reputed the highest fall in Europe, and is the head water of the Gave de Pau; but so small is it in volume that it dissipates into spray before reaching the bottom. These streamlets are fed entirely by the melting of the snow; in cold weather there is no water, and the fall is most copious in July—Sept.; and all, joining the Gave, escape from the Cirque by the only opening, that by which the traveller enters. The floor of the Cirque is an uninterrupted and irregular heap of detritus and blocks of rock, the ruins of the neighbouring mountains, which have fallen from above, very toilsome to walk over; and in the midst are one or two patches of dirty snow, nearly consolidated into ice, under which the Gave flows in a hollow vault. It takes nearly ½ an hr. from the entrance to reach the foot of the high waterfall, where the geologist may find specimens of the fossils contained in the rocks of the Cirque, which have been ascertained by M. Dufresnoy to be identical with those of the chalk of Northern Europe. An English traveller would certainly not recognise, otherwise, that formation in the dark cliffs around.

The mountains rising above the Cirque, but not visible from within its inclosure, are, to the E. the *Cylindre*, 10,914 ft., so called from its shape, whose base is imbedded in the great glacier, whence springs the high fall; the Tours de Marboré, 9964 ft., forming part of the Mont Perdu; and on the W. the Brèche de Roland, 9337 ft., and farther on the Fausse Brèche.

There is a small hut within the Cirque (La Baraque), 2 m. beyond the village, where the horses are put up.

The ascent of the *Brèche de Roland* is made from the Cirque of Gavarnie: it is fatiguing and difficult, but not dangerous. Some provisions, and a wine or brandy flask, should be taken; it would be almost impossible to find the way without a guide. A good walker can make the ascent from the hut in 2½ hrs. and the descent in 1½; but 4 hrs. should be allowed for the ascent, and 2½ for the descent. The ascent commences at the rocks of Saradetz, from the corner of the Cirque on the rt. hand, opposite to the high fall. A stranger would scarcely find the spot; no path leads to it, and there is no apparent break or interruption in the perpendicular wall of the mountain. The strata of the limestone are here vertical, and a buttress of it slightly projecting from the mass furnishes the means of scaling the precipice along the abrupt and shattered edges of the slaty rock, here divided like the leaves of a book, set on end, but shivery on the surface. The broken angles and splinters serve as steps, in which one may insert the toes and fingers, but it is as abrupt as the ascent of a ladder. Next the path winds round some smooth projecting shoulders of rock, and the edges of 1 or 2 cliffs, which alternate, higher up, with steep slopes, covered less with grass than with fallen stones. These steep grassy banks form a pasturage, called Las Serrades, for the flocks of some Spanish shepherds, who rent them from the commune of Gavarnie. There is no intermission to the steepness of the ascent, no flat interval between the slopes; it takes more than 1 hr. of "treadmill work" to rise above the high cascade. It is a glorious sight to look *down* from this upon the precipices and waterfalls, and the great glacier which feeds them, at which, shortly before, you gazed *up* with aching neck. Hence the Tours du Marboré are well seen; and at this height, about noon, the roar of avalanches succeeds to the monotonous dash of waterfalls, which before alone interrupted the solitude. The Cirque is soon after lost sight of: overhead rises an expanse of snow and glacier covering a steep slope, inclined like the roof of a house, surmounted by the wall of rock in the midst of which is *Roland's Breach*, and another similar

embrasure on the rt. of it, called *La Fausse Brèche*. The path is now tolerably level for some distance, till it reaches the foot of the glacier. As the glacier is too abrupt to ascend, it is left on the l. hand, and we begin to climb a less steeply inclined snow-clad slope, which at some seasons is denuded down to the slaty rubbish below the snow; it is a work of some fatigue. When two-thirds of the acclivity are surmounted the guide turns to the l. across the glacier, whose surface is so highly inclined that it is not possible to scale it from below; and even to cross it with safety it is necessary to cut notches in the ice, and to drive the Alp pole well into it. A false step would send you at once to the bottom. A few paces beyond the glacier brings the tourist to the *Brèche*. That insignificant notch in the mountain brow, as it appears seen from Gèdre, has now expanded into a colossal portal 300 ft. wide, 350 ft. high, and 50 ft. in length —9337 ft. above the sea-level. The ridge or crest in which it is formed is literally a wall of rock, varying in height from 300 to 600 ft., which here divides France from Spain, escarped on both sides, and not more than 50 or 80 ft. in length. Through this singular opening—as it were a window in the mountain, nearly square in its angles, and not much wider above than below—Spain is seen; a most uninviting prospect of rugged and bare mountains and valleys, filled with stones and snow in the foreground, while the distance is formed by the wave-like Sierras of Aragon rising high up against the horizon. On the French side the view is contracted by intervening mountains; only part of the Vignemale is visible. An extensive panorama is gained by ascending the Marboré, 1½ hr. above the Brèche.

The Brèche is said by Ramond to be visible from Saragossa and Huesca; and a practised eye, knowing where to search for these cities, might, with the aid of a telescope, in a clear state of the atmosphere, be enabled to discern them from here.

The threshold of the Brèche is angular, like the roof of a house, and the frontier line runs directly along it, so that one may sit astride of it, with one foot in France and the other in Spain.

All along the front of the Brèche, on the French side, the glacier is scooped out into a deep fosse or cavity, by the action of the sun's rays pouring from the south, through the opening, as Ramond has well explained, so that it cannot be approached directly, but only by skirting the edge of the cavity. The ascent was accomplished by the Duchesse de Berri in 1828, but it is not an excursion to be taken by ladies in general.

Ascent of the Mont Perdu.—The Brèche de Roland is used by the inhabitants of several villages on the Spanish side as a pass into France, and especially by smugglers. Through it lies the way to ascend the *Mont Perdu*, whose top may be reached in 6 hrs. from the Brèche, descending at first some hundred ft., and skirting the crumbling slopes of the Marboré on the l. Travellers usually pass the night in a poor hut (*Cabane de Gaulis*), 3 hrs. from the Brèche, cold quarters, and a desolate spot, frequented by shepherds, at the foot of the mountain, on the high table-land called Millaris, scattered over with slaty débris, and traversed by rents and deep fissures. The ascent from here to the summit will take 3 hrs. Mont Perdu is composed of 4 stages or terraces, faced by abrupt escarpments, each receding farther back than the one below. The 2 lower stages are easily ascended by means of a talus of marly débris fallen from above. The 3rd and 4th are more difficult to scale, especially the 4th, which can only be reached through a sort of an outlet for the melting snow. The summit of the Mont Perdu is 10,999 ft. above the sea-level, second in height to the Maladetta alone among the Pyrenees; it was first reached in 1802 by Ramond after two dangerous and unsuccessful attempts. It is not to be attempted without the aid of skilful guides. The ascent may be made by the *Col d'Astuzon*, descending by the Brèche —requiring a day and a half.

The *Port de Gavarnie*, 7500 ft., is a direct path into Spain. From the village of Gavarnie the path enters the Val d'Ossoué, and soon turning l. reaches the port in 2 hrs. of ascent. Down a steep slope you reach Bucharo (Busaruelo,—a poor *Inn*), in the Val de Broto, whence there is a pass to Panticosa, and another to Cauterets. Bucharo is 5 hrs. from Broto, on the Arras torrent, and 3 hrs. from Torla (a genuine Spanish Venta). This route commands magnificent scenery.

These excursions will require a guide who speaks Spanish, or rather the dialect of the Spanish peasants; it will be necessary to make a bargain at every Spanish inn. See HANDBOOK FOR SPAIN.

D. *Luz, by Baréges and the Tourmalet, to Bagnères de Bigorre or Luchon.*

Carriage-road.

	hr.	min.
Luz.		
Tourmalet	2	40
Gripp	0	50
Arreau	3	40
Luchon	5	0
	12	10

The times above mentioned were those actually taken on good horses, and more should generally be allowed. In going from Luz to Luchon (52 m.) it will be best to sleep at Arreau, and to start early next day for Luchon, in which case only three days should be charged from Luz to Luchon, back fare included.

From Luz to Baréges is a continuous ascent of about 4¼ m. A well-constructed carriage-road now shortens what was once a very tedious drive; the old road being constantly washed away by the torrent.

The accommodation at Baréges is so very second-rate that the traveller bound for Bagnères by the Tourmalet had better lengthen his day's journey by starting from Luz than put up for the night at Baréges.

On quitting Luz the road passes on the l. below the ruined castle of *Ste. Marie*, one of the last possessions retained by the English in the S. of France, since it held out for the Black Prince nearly as long as Lourdes. It stands on a mount, at the point where the valley of Baréges, or of the Bastan, opens into the plain of Luz. This is one of the least attractive valleys of the Pyrenees; the mountains around it are not picturesque in their forms, and the fissile and easily disintegrated shale composing them, crumbling down and filling up the bottom and sides of the valley, has been cut through by the Bastan and other furious torrents which seam the mountain's sides. From time to time vast masses of débris are washed down, and éboulements ensue, which stop up the watercourses until a débâcle occurs, and spreads desolation below it. Such catastrophes are of frequent occurrence; and the main torrent, the Bastan, is a very scourge. The great elevation of the valley above the sea contributes to its cheerless and forbidding character; and it is in such a situation, at a height 4180 ft. above the sea-level, confined by gloomy mountains which almost seem to overhang it, that

Baréges (*Inns:* H. de l'Europe; H. de France, dear; H. des Princes; none good), stands, a watering-place better known by name, perhaps, in distant countries, than any other among the Pyrenees, and in great repute with those who are really out of health and in earnest to get well, on account of the cures effected by its waters, but void of all other attractions. There is nothing to see. Being the loftiest of the Pyrenean baths (4085 ft.), its atmosphere is chilly and variable even in the height of summer. It contains about 70 houses, chiefly lodgings, with several cafés, in a long dull street, by the side of the Gave. The buildings next the stream, which are *meant to last*, are based on huge buttresses of masonry, without which precaution they would long ago have been swept away by the inundations of the torrent. A wide gap, however, is left in the midst, upon which only a few temporary booths and huts of wood are raised, for the winter avalanches sweep down from the mountains Ayré on the S. and Midaü on the N., through the wide gashes in their sides,

which open out opposite the vacant space, and bury this part of the town under the snow for several months of the year. In consequence Baréges is inhabited only during summer and autumn, and is abandoned for the rest of the year, except by a few persons, who take care of the houses. At the beginning of summer the owners return and dig out their houses from the snow, which covers them up to the first floor. An attempt has been made to arrest the avalanches by driving into the mountain-sides iron bars with chains attached. The bleak look of the place is greatly increased by the number of cripples and invalids you encounter at every step. This may be called the Hospital of the Pyrenees, being visited nearly by 1000 or 1200 genuine invalids, to whom the prospect of regaining health is a sufficient attraction. The French Government have established two military *Hospitals*, capable of receiving 500 or 600 men and 200 officers. The cures effected by the waters are wonderful: their efficacy is greatest in gunshot and other wounds, in curing ulcers, in relieving rheumatism, stiffness of the joints, and scrofulous affections. They cause old wounds, or ill-cured ones, to open afresh at first, then relieve them by discharges, drawing to the surface extraneous bodies long imbedded in the flesh, and promoting the exfoliation of carious portions of bone, and finally close the wound in a healthy manner.

A handsome *Bath-house* was erected by the Government in 1864. The *mineral waters* are very strong, their principal ingredients being sulphuret of sodium, carbonate, muriate, and sulphate of soda, azotic and sulphuretted hydrogen gases, and animal matter. They are derived from 6 or 7 different springs, the most potent being that called *Le Tambour*, but the supply is scarcely adequate to the demand. They are conducted into the bath-houses, where they fill the various baths, for the use of which 1 fr. 25 c. is charged, and into 3 piscines or public baths capable of holding from 12 to 20 persons each. One of these is appropriated to the military, another to the civil service, the 3rd to the poor. Admission to them is settled by order of precedence, and they are in use all day and night. Indeed so precious is the fluid, that the water from the bath-houses is said to be turned into the piscines. The piscines are horrid vaulted dens below ground, their roof serving as a promenade, filled with vapour. The waters, of a greenish-yellow tint, have strong smell of rotten eggs, and a nauseous oily taste; after standing they are covered on the surface with a film of glairy unctuous matter of a peculiar nature, which they deposit on the sides and bottom of the bath, called *Barégine* by chemists. These valuable medicinal springs rise (as usual in the Pyrenees) near a junction of the slate rock with the granite, and force their way to the surface through a mass of débris of the neighbouring rocks. They were first brought into notice by a visit which Madame de Maintenon paid to them 1676, by advice of the royal physician Fagon, for the sake of the young Duc du Maine, her pupil, natural son of Louis XIV. The "gouvernante" dates several of her letters from hence; and after a protracted residence she had the satisfaction of bringing back the little cripple so much better that he could enter the room walking to meet the king. She reached this place by crossing the Tourmalet, the road by Lourdes not being then made. Baréges was once nearly swept away by the bursting of the Lac d'Oncet.

A scanty and stunted wood of firs and alders is planted on the hill above Baréges on the S. It serves as a partial protection from avalanches, and below is converted into a *promenade* by walks cut along the slopes.

The fine silk tissue called *crêpe de Baréges* is not made here, but at Bagnères de Bigorre and Luz.

Diligences daily during the season to Pierrefitte Stat., where they correspond with the rlys. to Pau, Toulouse, and Bagnères. Public conveyances to Luz.

An excursion may be made round the Néouvielle mountain in a long

day, during which the traveller passes by 15 lakes, 2 of which are amongst the largest and most picturesque in the Pyrenees; the scenery is magnificent. Unless a practised mountaineer, he should be accompanied by a good guide, the paths for the most part being sheep-tracks; some shepherds' huts will be passed, where black bread and milk may be obtained, and it might be as well to sleep in the hut beside the second of the 3 Lacs Bugaret. The following names will indicate the successive stages of the route—*Baréges, Lac d'Escoubous, Hourquette d'Aubert, Lac d'Orrédon, Lac du Cap Long, Hourquette du Bugaret, Lac de Bugaret;* cross the barrier between the second and third of the three lakes, called Bugaret, and mount by a steep path across the ridge to the north of these lakes, descend on its farther side l. a small unnamed tarn, beside which crystals of garnet will be found; below cross a grassy swamp, then mount on the rt. to the lakes and valley of *La Glaire,* by descending which reach Baréges. There is a fine cascade at the head of the Lac du Cap Long, and there are glaciers to the S. of the Lacs Bugaret. A cart-road leads from the Lac d'Orrédon through grand pine-forests, and past the fine *cascade of Couplan,* down to Castets in the Vallée d'Aune (Rte. 86); a path leads from the Lakes Bugaret to Bagnères.

The distance from Baréges to Bagnères de Bigorre across the Tourmalet by the carriage-road is 25 m. Including a halt to rest the horses, it will take from 7 to 8 hours. The road leads up the Bastan valley on the l. bank of the torrent. Two torrents descend from the rt., out of the vales of Lienz and Escougous, at whose head lie nearly a dozen small tarns, or lakes. After passing these the Bastan is crossed, and the main ascent of the Col de Tourmalet commences in wide sweeps.

Pedestrians and horsemen should leave the carriage-road at the hamlet of Tournabout, about a mile above Baréges, and, crossing the bridge, follow the old road along the rt. bank to the hamlet of Tone, where they either rejoin the carriage-road to Bagnères, or follow the mule-path to the l. for the Pic du Midi.

[About 1¾ hr.'s walk from Baréges, where the ascent of the pass commences, a path on l. strikes up a small valley towards the *Pic du Midi de Bigorre.* That majestic mountain, which, though 9439 ft. above the sea-level, is free from snow in summer, rises on the l. of the Tourmalet: it is accessible, even on horseback, in 3 to 4½ hrs. from Baréges. Guide unnecessary. The path is steep, and in many places dangerous, there being scarcely room for a horse to step. It is possible to ride to within 100 yards of the summit. The way lies by the margin of the Lac d'Oncet, a picturesque tarn at the foot of the peak, closed in by precipices, about 2000 ft. below the summit. Above the lake is a small inn, which furnishes tolerable accommodation for the night. The *Observatory* established here by the Société Ramond is supported by voluntary subscriptions. The view from the top is *magnificent.* The Pic stands at the outer verge of the Pyrenean range; it descends with only one break to the plain, and affords a view towards Bordeaux and Toulouse, bounded only by the limit of vision. It comprises on the N. the plains watered by the Adour and Garonne; on the S. the great chain, including the step-like mass of the Mont Perdu, the Cylindre, Tours de Marboré, Brèche de Roland, and Vignemale, covered with glaciers; while among a multitude of peaks to the E. rises the Maladetta, the loftiest of the Pyrenees, forming a conspicuous point in this immense semicircle of mountains. There is another way down through the Hourquette de Cinq Ours and the ravine leading from the Lac d'Oncet to Tramesaïgues in the valley of Gripp. *See* below.]

From *Baréges to Bagnères de Bigorre* (25 m.) takes 4 to 5 hrs. by carriage. The *col du Tourmalet* is a low curved ridge or col—an isthmus uniting the Pic du Midi de Baréges with the main chain of the Pyrenees, over which lies the passage from the valley of the

Gave de Pau into that of the Adour. The old and shorter road is carried up to the Col in a series of sharp zigzags, over heaps of shivered shale: the pedestrian will save time by taking it. The new road is longer, and runs more on a level, round the shoulders of the hills. Those bound for the Pic du Midi had better take this road. On the rt. rise three bristling mountains, the Caubère, the Camipana, and the Pic Lespade. The summit of the Pass is 7100 ft. above the sea-level: the view from it is limited and not very striking; but as you look back the Monné and mountains above Cauterets are visible beyond it. The vale of Gripp opens out far more pleasingly than that of Baréges, carpeted with beautiful pastures; it is the cradle of the infant Adour, which rises near the base of the Pic Lespade. After a mile or two of gradual descent, the valley makes an abrupt dip, down which the road is carried, by a series of very steep zigzags called l'Escalette, to Tramesaïgues hamlet, occupied by shepherds, at the mouth of a gorge through which the pyramidal mass of the Pic du Midi appears in full majesty. This is the finest object on the pass: its bare precipice, when lighted up by the sun, exhibits the most singularly contorted strata, imitating the lines on an agate. It remains in sight only for a short distance, but from no point does this mountain appear to greater advantage. The summit of the Pic is reached from Bagnères by ascending this valley.

Near Lartigues, a hamlet on the river, is a cascade formed by one of the tributaries of the Adour, and a little lower down is another, the *Garret*, beneath a black fir forest, which covers the shoulder of the mountain like a bear-skin, above the village of

Gripp (*Inn:* H. des Voyageurs, chez Cazères; tolerable, famed for its trout), a prettily situated group of scattered cottages, 4 hours' walk or ride from Baréges, and 3 from Bagnères de Bigorre. Gripp is much frequented by visitors from both baths, on account of its waterfalls and its pleasing position, precisely in the part of the valley where trees flourish, corn begins to grow, and pastures become most verdant. The Pic du Midi de Bigorre may be reached in 5 hrs. from here, descending in 3 hrs.

[From *Gripp to Bagnères de Bigorre* there is a good carriage-road along the Adour (about 10 m.), which at 4 m. *Ste. Marie* falls into the *valley of Campan*, and joins the route to Luchon by Arreau (Rte. 86). The aspect of the Val de Campan from this point, and in descending to Bigorre, is less attractive than in ascending, owing to the arid, bare, and stained escarpments of the limestone cliffs on the rt. bank of the Adour; but there are some fine views on the l., looking up the tributary valleys towards the Pic du Midi.

The valley of the Campan has been celebrated, perhaps beyond its deserts, from the time of Arthur Young to the present, for its beauty. It is certainly very fertile, and is generally of a most brilliant green.

Ste. Marie (fair Inn), 7½ m. from Bagnères, lies near the point of junction of two valleys, up one of which runs the road to Gripp and the Tourmalet, and up the other, that to Luchon by the Hourquette d'Aspin and Arreau. *Campan*, with 3576 Inhab., lower down, gives its name to the valley, is not remarkable; but every traveller is pestered as he passes to visit the grotto, which is not worth seeing.

The Pics du Midi and de Montaigu are well seen below this through the fine opening of the vale of Lesponne to the l.: near its entrance stands *Beaudéan*, a village lower down, where Larrey, the celebrated army surgeon and favourite of Napoleon I., who accompanied him on his various campaigns, was born, 1766, in a house marked by a marble tablet. The precipitous mountain rising on the rt. is the *Penne de l'Hyeris*, often ascended on account of the views along the Adour. The Pont de Gerde, over the Adour, leads to it.

2 m. before reaching Bagnères, close to the road, is *Médoux*, a sequestrated and abandoned Capuchin convent, reduced

to an uninteresting ruin. A copious source of clear water rising here serves to turn a marble sawmill. On the outskirts of Bagnères, the road passes close under the promenade called Allées Maintenon.

BAGNÈRES DE BIGORRE (Rte. 88).]

The carriage-road from *Gripp to Luchon* descends the valley to Ste. Marie, and then turns up the Val de Séoube (Rte. 86). There is, however, a short cut from Gripp, usually taken by the guides, over the shoulder of the mountain, cutting off the angle and falling into the road on the Séoube a mile or two above Ste. Marie. See Rte. 86 for the rest of the road to

BAGNÈRES DE LUCHON.

ROUTE 86.

THE PYRENEES—BAGNÈRES DE BIGORRE TO LUCHON, BY THE HOURQUETTE D'ASPIN, ARREAU, COL DE PEYRESOURDE, AND VAL DE L'ARBOUST—EXCURSION TO THE LAC D'OO.

70 kils. = 43½ m. Carriage-road, traversed by diligences in summer. It includes the ascent and descent of 2 passes :—

7 m.	Ste. Marie	5½ hrs.' ride or walk.
2½ m.	Paillole	
5 m.	Hourquette d'Aspin	
8 m.	Arreau	
8½ m.	Loudervielle	6 hrs.' ride or walk.
4 m.	Col de Peyresourde	
3 m.	Garin	
2 m.	Cazaux	
4½ m.	Luchon	

The journey may be made in one day, say 14 hours, allowing 2 hours for rest, but it will be best to divide it by sleeping at Arreau. Diligences, coupé 20 fr. The charge for a carriage and pair of horses, including the use of leaders for the steep ascent of the pass, is for 1 day 40 frs., 2 days 75 frs. The excursion to Lac d'Oo will be about 12 m. to and fro, off the direct road. The route abounds in picturesque beauties; it ascends the Val Campan (described in Rte. 85) as far as the village of

7½ m. *Ste. Marie* (fair *Inn*).

We here leave, on the rt., the road to Gripp and the Tourmalet, and, crossing the Adour, ascend gradually along the bank of its E. tributary, up the Val de Séoube, and, passing through a scattered and picturesque village, reach (in 2 hours' walking)

Paillole, a group of cottages, with a small *Inn* where an omelette, trout, and beds may be had, in the midst of green pastures, encircled by noble forests. In the mountain near here, on the E. side of the valley, composed of limestone, are the *quarries of Espiadet*, yielding the marble called of Campan. At Campan itself, where the rocks are of another limestone, no marble is obtained.

The ascent to the Col or *Hourquette d'Aspin*, is carried up from the farm cottages of Paillole, at first in zigzags, entirely through forests of fir, of ancient growth, covering the hillsides far and wide. Through gaps among the trees, the bare Pic d'Arbizon is seen, from time to time, on the rt., at the head of the valley. The trees thin out before reaching the top of the pass (6396 ft. above the sea), whose open curved slopes are covered with turf. The Hourquette d'Aspin (1½ hour from Paillole) commands *one of the finest views in the Pyrenees*. Looking back, the Pic du Midi de Bigorre and the Pic d'Arbizon rise majestically above the pine forests; forward, and the billowy forms of many mountains, and the junction of many valleys, peaks, ridges, and hollows, one behind another, are presented to view, and the horizon is closed by the snowy top of the Maladetta, or at least of the Monts Maudits. The slope of the hills, on the side of Arreau, is so steep that the descent upon that town, which appears lying in

a hole, as it were, no more than a rifle-shot off, is only effected by long and complicated zigzags.

Arreau (*Inns:* H. d'Angleterre, good; H. de France, clean and comfortable, with moderate charges) is a small and dull town, nowise remarkable except for its situation, nearly in the midst of the Val d'Aure, which runs up into the Pyrenees, between the Val de Campan and the Val de Luchon, at the junction of the Nestes (or torrents) de Louron and d'Aure, which turn several saw-mills: the number of Inhabitants is about 1400. Here is a curious castellated *Church* of the Templars.

Lower down the valley, near Sarrincolin, are the marble quarries of Beyrede and Camous.

[The upper part of the *Val d'Aure* unfolds scenery whose extreme beauty and magnificence will well recompense the pedestrian disposed to explore it, and prepared for the wretched accommodation which is to be found. Indeed it will be advisable to take provisions of some kind, or at least white bread. Gèdre may be reached in one *very long* day from Arreau by starting early. It will be best to sleep at *Castel* (chez le Garde Forestier), whence there is a small cart-road to the magnificent Lac d'Orrédon (see Rte. 85), 3 hrs.' walk. A good road, along the l. bank of the Neste, leads through the yillages of *Cadéac* (½ hr.; *Inn* and baths), *Ancisan*, *Guchen*, all ancient settlements of the Templars, to

5¾ m. *Vielle* (*Aure*), chief village of 385 Inhab., with a wretched *Inn* (H. d'Espagne). Over this part of the valley the Pics *d'Arbizon* and *d'Azet* rise in great grandeur. The road crosses the river to

7 m. *St. Lary*—French custom-house station. The road for wheeled vehicles ends at

2 m. *Tramesaïgues* (small *Inn*), a village having sulphureous springs, a very picturesque ruined castle on a height, and a curious *Church* of the Templars, with a wooden clock-tower, and a singularly ornamented door. It is one of the most romantic spots in the Pyrenees. You may cross here by a bridge and return to Vielle by the rt. bank (1 hr.). The upper part of the valley, however, is well worth exploring by persons who can rough it. A ruined arch above the village is a relic of the defences by which the Spaniards barred the valley. At Tramesaïgues the valley divides, and 2 paths strike off into Spain, one S. by the Port de Plan or Col d'Ordiset, the other inclining to S.W., passing *Aragnouet* (poor *Inn*), 7 m. from St. Lary, by the Port de Bielsa. From Aragnouet a path ascends over the *Port de Cambiel* (8500 ft., 6½ hrs. from Aragnouet), a depression between the mountains of Cambiel and the Pic des Aiguillons, whence the Vignemale and M. Perdu are well seen, to Gèdre at the mouth of the Val d'Héas (see Rte. 85c).]

There is a mule-path from Arreau to Luchon, by the *Port de Pierrefitte* (20 m., 7 hrs.' walk), which is loftier and finer in point of scenery than the Col de Peyresourde, but a bad road; a guide will be useful at least up to the Col, which it is difficult to find. A carriage-road in progress.

A carriage-road, very circuitous from its windings and zigzags, has been made from Arreau over the *Port de Peyresourde* to Luchon (6 hrs.). It runs up the valley of the Louron, which, at first narrow, widens out, and becomes populous higher up, and is studded with a number of feudal castles, now in ruins, but which once defended the passage into Spain, perched on conical rocks. That of Bordères, on the l. bank, was a stronghold of the Counts of Armagnac, owners of the valley, the last of whom, John V., in the reign of Louis XI., 1475, on account of his incestuous union with his sister, was excommunicated by the Pope, and deprived of his princely domains by Louis. Below this, looking back, there is a good view of the windings of the road to the Col d'Aspin and of the town of Arreau, which looks well only at a distance. Passing Avejan and Adervielle, near the slate-quarries of Genos, the road crosses the

river, and quits the valley by a rapid ascent.

Loudervielle (poor *Inn*), distinguished by its square feudal watch-tower projecting over the valley.

[Above Genos, the vale of the Louron divides into 2 branches, terminating in the Ports de la Pez and de Clarabide, leading into Spain, but difficult, if not dangerous, and little used; and between the bifurcation to these passes rises the grand Pic du Midi de Génos.]

The ascent above Loudervielle is by zigzags, short, numerous, and abrupt. The beauties of the valley of Louron are soon hidden from view, and by a long pull the **Port de Peyresourde** is reached, 4452 ft. above the sea, which separates the Val de Louron from that of l'Arboust, covered with coarse pasturage dotted over with a few fir-trees. The view from the summit is limited. Cultivation is carried up very high in the opposite valley; but the ash woods (arbusta), from which, doubtless, it derives its name, are greatly diminished. Before descending, a narrow path, difficult for horses, strikes off on the rt. direct to the *Lac d'Oo* (Rte. 87). The carriage-road to Luchon makes a considerable détour, descending the valley nearly as far as an ancient, half-ruined, solitary ch., planted on a singular mound, by the side of which rises the brand or split fir-tree set in readiness to be lighted on "The Eve of St. John." Evidences of ancient glaciers are very conspicuous in this valley, especially at Garen—vast moraine.

Cazeaux village has a Romanesque *Church* of 12th cent., containing rude carvings and mural paintings. [Here the path to Lac d'Oo from Luchon turns off rt. (Rte. 87.)] *St. Aventin*, another primitive, Romanesque ch., contains the relics of that saint, who was martyrized here, after being shut up in the ruined *Castel-Blancat*. His body was discovered, 300 years after, by a bull lowing and pawing up the earth, and was placed in a rude shrine behind the altar of the ch. *See* the S. porch, and 3 Roman altars built into the walls.

After crossing the minor stream of the Oheil beyond St. Aventin, the fine avenue called Allée des Soupirs leads into

Bagnères de Luchon (Rte. 89).

ROUTE 87.

BAGNÈRES DE LUCHON TO LAC D'OO—THE FROZEN LAKES, PORT D'OO, AND VENASQUE.

This is one of the most interesting excursions in the Pyrenees; no spot in the whole chain surpassing in beauty the Lac d'Oo; it may be performed on horseback, and in carriage as far as Astau.

		hr.	min.
	St. Aventin	1	0
	Cazeaux	0	25
6 m.	Oo village	0	35
	Granges d'Astau	1	0
4 m.	Lac d'Oo (cabane)	0	35

In order to reach the Lac d'Oo turn to the S., l., at the village of *Cazeaux*, on the road to B. de Bigorre (Rte. 86); and by a very narrow and stony bridle-path, through the fields and along the slopes of a hill which drops down upon the village d'Oo, the path enters the Val d'Oo, at whose upper end lies the Lac, is called. It is very narrow and deep, closed in by impending mountains, and at its head by glaciers. The horse-path up it crosses the clear stream of the Oo, outside of the village, and following the rt. bank, threads stony lanes between pastures of vivid green under the shade of ash-trees. Next, it emerges upon open meadows. Beyond the *Granges d'Astau* (Lassalle will supply refreshments here, and horses to the lake) (rt. the fall called

Chevalure de la Madeleine) it begins to mount, by a long series of zigzags, a high step stretching across the valley, which from below or above appears a precipice, yet is made accessible for horses, but is very toilsome to surmount. We now enter the fir-woods; the mountains, sternly grand, rise beetling over the path. On arriving at the top, the valley is seen to be traversed from side to side by a natural dam of slate rocks, whose strata are vertical. Behind this the little oval basin, called *Lac d'Oo*, or *de Seculéjo*, lies snugly cradled, shut in all round, save on the side of the dam, by precipices of great height, which, though vertical, are tinged green by partial vegetation. In front, a very fine cascade, upwards of 800 ft. in height, forms the centre of the picture, and is reflected in a white streak upon the dark mirror of the lake below. The waters of the lake escape in a fall over a gap in the slate-dam already mentioned, upon which also stands a hut (*Cabane*) where horses may be put up, and refreshment (trout, &c.) obtained. The hut contains 5 or 6 beds, not exempt from fleas even at this great elevation (3200 ft.), and will be found desirable quarters for a mountaineer wishing to explore the scenery around. The lake is about ½ m. in diameter : it will be worth while to row across it, approach the waterfall and thoroughly enjoy the grandeur of the scene. It abounds with trout. Here a small toll, 25 c. for every horse and person, is paid for keeping up the path, which higher up ceases to be practicable for horses.

By the Frozen Lakes and Port d'Oo to Venasque in Spain.

	hrs.	min.	
Lac d'Espingo . . .	1	15	Take a guide and provisions for the journey.
Lac Saounsat . . .	0	20	
Lac Coume de la Baque	2	0	
Lac Glacé	2	0	
Port d'Oo	0	50	
Val d'Astos, in Spain.			
Venasque	5	30	

*** It will take about 4 hrs. to descend from the Port d'Oo to the Lac d'Oo, and 1¼ hr. thence to Luchon.

There is a great charm in the frozen lakes which occur in this part of the Pyrenees—bedded in glaciers, and at times to be seen with icebergs floating on their surface.

The waterfall of the Lac d'Oo is fed from a still higher reservoir, the *Lac d'Espingon*, drawing its supplies from the contiguous glaciers. It may be reached either by a narrow path along the l. or E. margin of the Lac d'Oo, or by crossing it in the boat kept to convey people to the foot of the fall, and then by clambering up at the side of it through a rent in the slate rock, whose broken laminations serve as steps (l'Escala); next, passing above the cascade, it reaches the lake *d'Espingon*, 1¼ hour's walk from Lac d'Oo. The savage wildness and awful stillness of this scene render it very impressive. There is a third lake a little beyond it, called Saousat, in which fish cannot live, lying at the foot of the Pic de Spijole, amidst scenery far more savage than that of the Lac d'Oo. The rest of the way is pathless, and for some distance over beds of snow, and difficult to explore without a guide. The course usually taken is to leave on the l. the 3rd lake and also a 4th, a mere tarn, called Coume de la Baque. Above this the stream divides. Ascend by the rt.-hand branch, and 2 hrs. of hard climbing, and 1 of fatiguing scramble, succeed. Some rounded summits of rock and snowy banks are next crossed, until the summit is reached, the rocky edge of a basin filled with snow, in whose depths lies a 5th lake (*Lac Glacé*, or Lac de Portillon), which remains ice-bound nearly throughout the year, fed by an extensive glacier. A walk of 1¼ m. across this snowy basin leads to the col called *Port d'Oo*, 9843 ft. above the sea-level, and exceeded by very few among the Alps, leading down the Val d'Astos to the Spanish town of Venasque (Rte. 90). There is here no gap or opening in the rocky wall, only a narrow ridge, 20 ft. wide, commanding a scene of extreme wildness. The view is not very extensive. The *Pic de Posets* is the chief object on the Spanish side; its glacier is the second in extent, next to that of the Maladetta, among the Pyrenees.

It is 5 hrs.' walk from the Port d'Oo to Venasque, descending the rocks S.S.W., leaving on rt. a small lake, and following a tributary of the Essera into the Val d'Astos, passing the Cabane de Turmes. (Rte. 90.)

There is a second pass to Venasque from the Lacs Glacés, over the *Portillon*, the scenery around which is magnificent; one of the loftiest passes in the Pyrenees (9984 ft.)

ROUTE 88.

PAU TO BAGNÈRES DE BIGORRE, BY LOURDES AND TARBES.—RAIL.

	Kil.	Miles.
Pau to Lourdes Stat. . .	39	24
Tarbes	59	36
Bagnères de Bigorre . .	81	50

Time, 3 hrs.; *trains*, 3 daily.

The Rly. from *Pau* to
24 m. *Lourdes* Stat. is described in Rte. 85.

The line then turns to the N.E. through *Adé* and *Juillan* to

12 m. **Tarbes** Junct. Stat. (Buffet) (*Inns:* H. des Ambassadeurs; H. de la Paix, H. du Commerce, fair; H. du Grand Soleil; H. de l'Europe).

Post-office, Rue Maubourget; *Telegraph-office* on the Quai des Capucins.

Cabs to hold 2; the hour, 1 fr. 50 c.; the course, 75 c.: to hold 4; the hour, or course, 2 frs.

This chief town of the Dépt. des Hautes Pyrénées is pleasantly situated on the Adour, in the midst of a fertile plain, in full view of the Pyrenees. Pop. 15,658. It has some manufactures, but few objects of interest. The *Place Maubourguet* is a fine open space in the centre of the town, and contains the principal inns and cafés. The *Place Marcadieu* is still larger, and is used for the markets and the extensive yearly fairs, when the various costumes collected are worth seeing. In the fine *Jardin Massey* will be found a museum, with some good pictures, &c. There is also a pleasant walk by the side of the river. There is a fine bridge over the Adour, and a portion of its water is distributed in canals through the town. The Government has a *stud* (Haras) here for improving the breed of horses. The chief building is the *Cathedral* (or *Ch. de la Sède*) (M. H.), dating from the 14th cent., with Romanesque apse. It is said to occupy the site of the Castle of the Counts of Bigorre, of which Tarbes (the city of the Tarbelli) was the capital. The English monarchs retained possession of Bigorre, which, with Guienne, formed the dowry of Queen Eleanor, for 300 years, down to the reign of Charles VII. The Black Prince kept his court at Tarbes; Froissart describes his visit to the Count d'Armagnac there.

The distant *view* of the Pyrenees is scarcely equal to that from Pau, but the Pic du Midi de Bigorre and the Balaïtous are conspicuous objects. Tarbes was the birthplace (1755) of the infamous Barrère, of the National Convention, one of the most cruel of the monsters of the First Revolution.

A smart action was fought at Tarbes, in the interval between the battle of Orthez and that of Toulouse, in which the British army drove the French from their position, and compelled them to retreat. One French brigade was attacked by the 3 rifle battalions:—"The fight was short, yet wonderfully fierce and violent; for the French, probably thinking their opponents to be Portuguese, on account of their green dress, charged with great hardiness, and being encountered by men not accustomed to yield, they fought muzzle to muzzle, and it was difficult to judge at first who would win. At last the French gave way."—*Napier*. But out of the 120 men who fell on the side of the British, there were 12 officers and 80 men of the Rifles.

Tarbes is the key to the communications with all parts of the Pyrenees.

Railway—to Bordeaux, by Aire and Mont de Marsan—to Lourdes, Pau, and Bayonne—to Auch, Agen, and Périgueux (the most direct route from this part of the Pyrenees to Paris)—to Montrejeau, Toulouse, Cette, and Marseilles—to Bagnères de Bigorre.

From Tarbes the railroad ascends the l. bank of the Adour; gradually advancing within the embrace of the mountains, which rise in height in proportion as we advance. The country is richly cultivated, copiously irrigated, and thickly peopled; no less than 8 villages being passed on this stage. A little off the rly. lies the *Château d'Odos*, where Marguerite Queen of Navarre, sister of Francis I., died, 1549. Near *Montgaillard*, the carriage-road from Lourdes falls in on the rt. At Trebons, the Val Loussouet opens out on the rt., and runs up towards the Pic de Peyre and Pic de Montaigu.

A little below Pouzac is a circular church, like that of the Templars at Luz. The knoll passed a little behind the village of Pouzac, before reaching the town, is the *Camp de César*, so called from an intrenchment upon it. About 2 m. before reaching Bigorre, on the rt. bank of the Adour, near the farther extremity of a wooden bridge over that river, the geologist will discover a knob of hornblende rock (ophite), which appears to have affected the rocks about it, since a little lower down the granite is found decomposed, intermixed with a limestone which has assumed a large granular structure.

14m. **Bagnères de Bigorre** (or *Bagnères*) Stat. (*Inns:* Grand Hotel, very comfortable, people attentive, good cuisine; H. de Londres, very good; H. de France, good cuisine; H. Frascati, a large establishment, including mineral baths and springs, billiard and coffee rooms; H. de Paris. The average daily charge at the hotels is 10 frs. H. du Bon Pasteur, good; H. de la Paix).

Bagnères is the most town-like of the Pyrenean watering-places in extent, amusements, shops, general resources, &c., having a permanent population of 9433, often augmented by 6000 or 8000 strangers intent upon pleasure as well as health, during the season, which lasts from the end of June to the end of September. It is a cheerful town of whitewashed houses, set off with blue marble window-sills and door-jambs, delightfully situated, just where the plain of Tarbes begins to contract into the vale of Campan, and the slopes which bound it to change from hills into mountains, whose noble peaks and masses rising to the S. form the background of all the beautiful views in and about the town, while undulating slopes, trees, fields of maize, vines, and villas fill up the foreground. It stands at a height of only 1820 ft. above the sea-level; and its drawbacks are the great heat, dust, and glare during part of the summer, unfanned by the mountain breezes. The Adour, on whose l. bank it is built, is here greatly reduced in breadth and volume by the numerous artificial cuts and canals, which borrow its waters for the purpose of irrigation, and to turn marble, paper, and other mills. A large part of these streams also is made to circulate through the streets; and thus they contribute to clean them, while they freshen the air. Every street and lane has its own clear watercourse, at which the housewives wash their linen and domestic vessels before their own doors; while to the deeper channels, horses, asses, and pigs repair twice a day, and, after wading knee-deep, are ladled over with water thrown upon their backs from a wooden scoop.

Montaigne preferred Bigorre to all the Eaux-Thermales which he had visited, "comme celles où il y avait plus d'aménité de lieu, commodité de logis, de vivre, et de bonne compagnie;" and on almost all these heads it still continues to deserve this commendation. The climate is warmer and less variable than that of the watering-places in the mountains; the cost of living and price of provisions are moderate, lodgings being very numerous, since almost every householder in the town lets either part or the whole of his house.

To the passing traveller its chief

attractions are the picturesque beauties of the valleys and mountains around, which afford endless resources: the town itself has scarcely any curiosities or sights, but is the headquarters of the Société Ramond, whose quarterly bulletin is a record of Pyrenean studies and explorations, and who publish a list of guides recommended in the various districts.

The collections formed by the late Messrs. Davezac and Philippe, and those of M. Frossard and Vaussenat, will interest the geologist.

The tall, octagonal, Gothic *tower*, rising near the H. de France, belonged to a church of Dominican friars, suppressed at the Revolution. The *Ch. of St. John*, which belonged to the Templars, but is now converted into a theatre, retains a fine pointed doorway, enriched with mouldings. One or two feudal towers remain of the ancient *fortifications*, relics of the days when Froissart describes Bagnères as "une bonne, grosse ville, fermée," whose peaceful citizens suffered sorely from a neighbouring den of thieves, or castle, or, to borrow Froissart's words, "Ceux d'icelle ville avoyent trop fort temps, car ils estoyent guerroyés et harriés de ceux de Malvoisin qui sied sur une montagne." (See Rte. 89.) Bagnères was ceded to the English by the Treaty of Bretigny; and, as a border fortress on a line of passage into Spain, it was taken by Henry of Trastamare by storm, after the death of his brother Peter the Cruel. One of the towers, called *de Malfourat*, still stands opposite the Thermes.

Bagnères de Bigorre owes its reputation as a watering-place to its warm *saline springs*, varying in temperature from 87° to 123° Fahrenheit. They are beneficial in affections of the digestive organs, and resemble those of Baden-Baden, but contain a smaller quantity of saline substances. They were known to the Romans, as inscriptions found in and near the town prove; indeed the name Bagnères is not improbably traced to the Latin "Balnearia." The sources rise, to the number of about 40, within the space of 10 or 12 acres, out of a shaly, calcareous rock.

The *Public Bathing Establishment*, or *Thermes*, situated at the extremity of the town, under Mont Olivet, is the largest building in it. The six springs, La Reine (named from Jeanne de Navarre, mother of Henri IV., who used it 1567), Le Dauphin, Roi de Lannes, St. Roch, Foulon, and Des Yeux, are conveyed into the building and distributed among its 29 baths and 4 douches. The water is previously received and cooled down in open tanks; and it is in this process that the substance called *Barégine*, but whose nature, whether animal or vegetable, has not yet been clearly ascertained, collects on the surface.

Beside the Thermes is the large *Casino*, where balls, concerts, and other amusements are provided during the season.

There are about 20 other bath establishments in and around the town; indeed it is only necessary to bore into the ground to a certain depth to obtain with certainty a warm saline spring. The most fashionable and frequented bath, and the water apparently most efficacious, is that of *Le Salut*, rather less than a mile out of the town, in a spacious recess on the flank of the Monné hill. The bath-house is a solitary building, approached by a long avenue of poplars, winding through the pretty green valley, crowded at all hours, but chiefly in the morning, by bathers on horseback or foot, or in sedan-chairs. It contains only 10 baths, so that, during the season, they are in request at all hours. The water of the Salut is saline, with a sulphureous smell, from which it has the property of blackening silver. It has scarcely any perceptible taste, only a sort of milky feel in the mouth.

Bagnères also possesses a chalybeate spring, *Fontaine Ferrugineuse* (or d'Angoulême), situated on the E. flank of the Mont Olivet, in the direction of the village of Pouzac.

The vale of Campan above Bagnères abounds in the beautiful marbles for which the Pyrenees are famed: they are much used in Paris, and the working of them gives employment to many persons here. The *Marbrerie* of *M.*

Géruzet is on a very extensive scale, and the modes of cutting, turning in the lathe, and polishing large blocks, by machinery moved by the river, are well worth seeing. Tables, chimney-pieces, buffets, pillars, slabs, as well as vases and other articles, are made here; and no less than 20 varieties of marble are employed. The prices are not extravagant: a list of the different varieties is printed, with the cost. The most beautiful are the green and flesh-coloured marbles of Campan, the blood-red or Griotte, filled with fossilized shells, whose spirals are disclosed in cutting.

In the secluded and picturesque Élisée-Cottin Glen, 2 m. from Bagnères, Madame Cottin wrote 'Elizabeth, or the Exiles of Siberia.'

M. Géruzet is the principal banker and correspondent of Messrs. Coutts of London.

The knitting of the *fine wool* of the Pyrenees, brought from Spain, gives employment to the greater part of the females, young and old, in and about the town, who may be seen sitting at their cottage-doors, in the roads and streets, hard at work. The articles made here are counterpanes, mittens, aprons, caps, work-bags, besides shawls and scarfs of woollen gauze, rivalling in thinness fine lace. The so-called *crêpe de Barèges* is made here and at Luz. The principal dépôt for these articles is at Mademoiselle Laffargue's.

Eng. Physician, Dr. Bagnell, of Pau, spends the summer here.

The *Eng. Ch. Service* is celebrated twice a day on Sundays by a resident chaplain, in a handsome *Church* dedicated to the Holy Trinity. There is a permanent Prot. Fr. Service throughout the year.

Good *fly-fishing* in the Adour between Bagnères and Tarbes.

Diligences—Daily to Luchon: to St. Sauveur, Luz, Barèges (by the Tourmalet). (See Rte. 85, D.)

Railways to Bordeaux, by Tarbes; to Montrejeau for Luchon and Toulouse; to Paris, by Tarbes, Auch, Agen, Périgueux, &c.

Guides and *ponies* for excursions in the mountains are numerous. The landlords of the H. de France or other inns will recommend the most trustworthy.

Chaises à porteurs, or sedan-chairs, are much used by invalids to go to the baths. To be carried to the Bain de Salut and back costs 1 fr.

The *Promenades* most frequented in and near the town (besides the *Avenues de Salut* already mentioned) are the *Coustous*, a long platform in the midst of the town, lined with houses and cafés; shaded with trees, under which a sort of fair is kept up throughout the season. It is crowded in the cool of the evening. The *Allées de Maintenon*, a row of trees planted along a bank above the road leading to Campan. The *pleasantest walk* in the morning will be along the slopes of the *Mont Olivet*, the wooded hill rising behind the Thermes. Numerous shady paths are cut through the trees, whence you may survey the vale of the Adour. One path skirting the flanks of the hill leads to the chalybeate spring.

In the rear of Mont Olivet and of the Bains de Salut rises the loftier cone-shaped *Mont Bédat*, which takes more than half an hour to ascend, and is accessible on horseback; it contains a large cavern inhabited by numberless bats. Fine panoramic view.

By crossing the two bridges over the main streams of the Adour, by which the road to Toulouse quits the town, and turning to the rt., after passing the second, up a steep road in zigzags, the *Palombière* is reached; a row of trees on the top of the hill, between which the birdcatchers stretch their nets in September and October, to take the flocks of migratory wild pigeons, aided by boys hoisted aloft in a sort of cradle at the top of a pair of poles 130 to 150 ft. high above the ground—a position which seems terrific, owing to the bending of the poles beneath their weight. On the approach of the birds the boy throws down a piece of wood somewhat in the shape of a pigeon, which making a whizzing noise causes the birds to stoop in their flight, so as to come within the reach of the net, which is allowed to fall on them by loosening the

cords. There is scarcely a better point than this to look up the valley of Campan and survey the magnificent mountains at its head, bounding it on the S.W.; the Pic du Midi and the Pic de Montaigu, with the Pène (*Pen* or *Ben*, Celtic, head) de Lheris rising on the l. In the midst, the white buildings of Bagnères are spread out, backed by the dark masses of the Mont Olivet, the Bédat, &c. The Adour figures little in the view, so much are its streams frittered away; but below the town to the N. its wide, cultivated plain spreads out for miles and miles, until it unites with that of the Garonne.

More distant Excursions, of great beauty and interest, are to the Valley of Gripp and its cascades; to Trames-aïgues (Rte. 85, D); to Paillole and the marble quarries (Rte. 86). The ascent of the *Monné* (4150 ft.) may be made in 2½ hrs. on foot, and the *Pène de Lheris* (4600 ft.) in 3 hrs. Both command fine views.

The most beautiful scenery of the Vale of Campan will be found within the branch of it called *Val Lesponne*, opening out near the Château de St. Paul, and running up between the Pic du Midi de Bagnères on the S. and the Pic de Montaigu on the N. Its lower portion has chiefly the pastoral character of rich verdure, alternating with cultivated fields. Beyond the village Lesponne it contracts in width, its aspect alters and becomes wilder; bare rocks and rugged crags succeed to dark forests of beech and pine: the forms of the mountains are very striking. About 2 m. above Lesponne a gorge, opening on the rt., displays the entire mass of the Pic de Montaigu; and the streamlet traversing it descends the steep rocks in a pretty fall. Carriage-road to near the head of the Val Lesponne, bridle-path beyond. Half an hour's walk farther, and the valley divides: the branch on the rt. leads, in 3 h., over the pass called Hourquette de Barané, to Pierrefitte in the Val d'Argeles; that on the l., disclosing the noble form of the Pic du Midi de Bagnères, leads up to the *Lac Bleu* (6424 ft.), 6 to 7 hrs.' walk from Bagnères de Bigorre, in which the stream of the Val Lesponne takes its rise. The ascent to it is very steep and fatiguing though it can be achieved by ladies: it is cut through the mica-slate rock, covered at first by a wood, beyond which are extensive pasturages. The lake itself is an oval basin, about 1 m. long, at the top of a mountain, surrounded by bare craggy peaks, within whose declivities the snow always remains. It is a solitary spot, and a stillness almost death-like reigns around. It might be dreary, but for the rich warm colouring of the rocks, the depth and stillness of the water, and its intense blue, whence it takes its name. Beside the lake stands a small *Inn*, where bad food and worse accommodation are supplied at high prices.

The *Lac Vert* or *de Peyrelade* is a smaller tarn and inferior in beauty, though picturesquely situated beneath the precipices of the Pic du Midi de Bigorre. It is reached by the gorge passed on the l. of the road a little before coming to that leading to the Lac Bleu. A path practicable for horses leads up a long gradual slope E. of Lac Bleu to the Col d'Aoube, and then descends by the gorge beyond the Col S. to the old road from the Tourmalet to Baréges, which place may thus be reached in about 3 hrs. from Lac Bleu.

ROUTE 89.

BAGNÈRES DE BIGORRE TO LUCHON.

The *carriage-road* over the Col d'Aspin offers grand scenery (see Rte. 86), but takes 7 to 8 hrs., exclusive of rest at Arreau.

Although a wide détour, it will take less time than the hilly road to return

by *rly.* from Bagnères de Bigorre to Tarbes (Rte. 88), and then proceed by *rly.* to Montrejeau, 34 m. (4 trains daily, in 2 hrs. Branch to Luchon 23 m., 2 trains daily, in 1¾ hr.).

On leaving Tarbes the line runs S.E. to

11 m. *Tournay* Stat. [road of 8 m. to *Escaladieu.* The post-house occupies part of the buildings of the ancient *Abbey,* now in ruins, charmingly placed on the borders of the Arros. It now belongs to a gentleman of Bordeaux, who has fitted up a portion of the building as a dwelling. The chapel remains, with some fragments of Gothic sculpture. A little beyond it, on the road to Capvern, the ruins of the *Castle Mauvezin* (i. e. Mauvais Voisin, a name given by the inhabitants of the neighbouring towns, who suffered from the depredations of the bands of marauders sheltered in this stronghold) crown a detached hill. It witnessed many exploits during the occupation of this country by the English. It was besieged 1374, by the Duc d'Anjou, with an army of 8000 men; and the strength of the castle was so great that it would have held out for a very long time, but, the well which supplied it being without the walls, the besiegers cut off the communication, and as the weather was hot and the cisterns dry, not a drop of rain having fallen for six weeks, the garrison were obliged to come to terms. The Duc d'Anjou allowed them to depart, saying, "Get about your business, each of you to your own countries, without entering any fort that holds out against us; for if you do so, and I get hold of you, I will deliver you up to Jocelin (his headsman), who will shave you without a razor." He also allowed them to carry off as much of their booty as they could convey in trunks on sumpter horses.—*See* Froissart.]

7 m. *Capvern* Stat., on one side of the village, ½ m. off, in a retired nook, are the Sulphureous Springs of *Capvern,* having a bathing establishment, 2 hotels (de France, des Pyrénées), and several lodging-houses attached to it. It is a place of increasing resort, owing to the virtues of its waters.

4 m. *Lannemezan* Stat. The village is at some distance from the rly. on l. (*Inn* not good). The little chapel shows an opening by which the *Cagots* might hear mass from the outside, not being allowed to enter. This was in use down to the end of the 17th cent. The tents of the large military camp, lately established on the surrounding plateau, may be seen from the line. From here the post-road branches off on rt. to Arreau, passing through La Barthe, following the valley of the Neste, where there is a good country inn.

8 m. *Aventignan* Stat. In the neighbourhood is the *Grotto* of Gargas, 4 m. W. of St. Bertrand, in the wooded hill between the Garonne and Neste, the finest in the Pyrenees for extent and the beauty of its stalactites, which have been in great part recklessly destroyed. Tickets of admission 1 fr. 50 c., or 2 frs. when illuminated.

12 m. *Montrejeau* Junct. Stat. (Buffet, good table-d'hôte 3 fr. 50) (*Inns:* H. Pouget; H. Leclair), a town of 3832 Inhab., in front of the opening of the Valley of the Garonne, whose vista is terminated by the grand peaks and ridges attached to the group of the Maladetta, at whose foot, on the S., rises the Ebro, and on the N. the Garonne. It is a truly magnificent view. The stream of the Neste d'Aure falls into the Garonne near here (Rte. 91).

Branch *Rly.* S., 23 m., to Luchon, following nearly the same route as the carriage-road (24 m.) which, crossing the Garonne, begins to ascend its valley.

At the distance of 6 or 8 m. the line passes abruptly from the plain into the midst of the mountains. A fine view is presented of the interesting town of St. Bertrand. "You break at once upon a vale, sunk deep enough beneath the point of view to command every hedge and tree, with St. Bertrand clustered round its large cathedral on a rising ground. If it had been built purposely to add a feature to a singular prospect, it could not have been better

placed. The mountains rise proudly around, and give their rough frame to this exquisite little picture."—*A. Young*.

To the rt. after crossing the Garonne is Valcabrère, near which on the N.W. side of the hill is the *Ch. of St. Just*, built in the 11th cent. almost entirely of Roman fragments. Behind the altar is a curious stone shrine of St. Just.

5 m. *Loures St. Bertrand* Stat. [On the rt. bank of the Garonne the ancient walled town of

St. Bertrand de Comminges (Lugdunum Convenarum) (*Inn:* H. de Comminges) is situated at the opening of the Val de Barousse, upon and around a solitary rock, rising picturesquely out of the plain, and commanding a grand distant view of the Pyrenees. Its summit is crowned by a fine Gothic *Church* (M. H.), date 1304–52, including a Romanesque W. front and tower; a nave without aisles, 1304–52, and a choir with 11 chapels partly Pointed, partly Renaissance, finished 1535. The choir and organ are ornamented with remarkable wood carvings. *Obs.* the 70 carved *Stalls, a Tree of Jesse*, the high altar, the roodloft (jubé), and the monument of Bp. Hugh de Castillione (date 1351) in white marble. Upon the walls are rude paintings of the Miracles of St. Bertrand; and some relics of the saint are preserved in the sacristy. Here is hung up the skin of a crocodile, which is said to have infested the neighbourhood and to have been destroyed by the saint! The interesting Romanesque cloisters are in the style of the 12th cent., with round arches on coupled shafts. This church was once a *cathedral*, and the town itself, now deserted (847 Inhab.), was the capital of a comté, and a bishop's see. The extent of the Roman settlement is shown by the remains of buildings, sculptures, altars, discovered here].

The road to Luchon, leaving St. Bertrand on one side, crosses the Garonne, by the Pont de Labroquère, and pursues its left bank, through scenery of great interest, in which well-cultivated fields, inclosed by festoons of vines, hanging from tree to tree, form the foreground, and grand mountains the distance, by

Estenos, 12 m. from Montrejeau, and (2 m. before reaching here, road on rt. to *Mauléon*) continuing to near *Cierp*, where we quit the Garonne, and enter the Valley of La Pique or of Luchon, which becomes its affluent below Cierp, a picturesque village both on account of its antique cottages, and from its position, under cliffs which nearly overhang it, at a point where the vistas of 2 valleys, meeting, disclose noble views. There are quarries of a handsome marble near here.

[A road runs from Cierp up the Valley of the Garonne (Vallée d'Aran), one of the most beautiful in the Pyrenees, to St. Béat, the last town of France, situated in a narrow gorge between high mountains. (See below, *f.*) St. Béat is not more than 5 m. from the Spanish frontier, at the Pont du Roi.]

The Valley of Luchon, which is very picturesquely varied with wood, rock, habitations, and cultivated fields, presents a succession of wild contractions, and smiling basin-shaped expansions, covered with verdure, the river alternately winding over the plain and dashing through the gorge; its upper end terminated by the grand snowy peaks contiguous to the Port de Venasque. The road is carried on a regular terrace. Higher up, the iron-furnaces of Guron are passed. Near Cazaux is a defile which some have considered a work of art, and have attributed to the Romans.

12 m. **Luchon**, or *Bagnères de Luchon*, terminus *Stat.* (*Inns:* H. Bonnemaison, or de Londres, best situation; H. d'Angleterre, good, by arrangement, 10 frs. a day; H. du Parc; H. des Princes, both good; H. Sacaron; H. Richelieu, dear; H. des Empereurs).

The hotel charges are usually reasonable, and there are plenty of good lodging-houses, though apartments are let at exorbitant prices; good restaurants and cafés; Cercles at the hotels

Bonnemaison and du Parc. A small casino.

No place in the Pyrenees equals in beauty of situation, in variety and interest of excursions, and in luxury and gaiety, Bagnères de Luchon. The mountains are loftier than those of Bigorre, and entirely surround the flat, fertile plain on the edge of which it stands (2063 ft.), forming a sort of oval basin in the very heart of the Pyrenees. On the W., close to the town, the Val de l'Arboust opens out; on the S., high among the clouds, rise bare, serrated ridges, destitute of vegetation, but contrasting grandly with the luxuriantly cropped plain near at hand.

Luchon is a town of 3921 Inhab. It is much improved by the construction of handsome houses, and is now a place of fashionable resort. The town is in plan a triangle, at the junction of the One with the Pique: from each angle issues an avenue lined with houses: on the S.E. the Allée d'Étigny, which leads to the Baths; to the N.E. that of Barcugnar; and to the N.W. the Allée des Soupirs, ascending the valley of the One. The principal streets are the Allée de la Pique, leading to the river, and the Cours d'Étigny, a triple avenue of limes, 80 ft. wide, lined with buildings, including the principal inns and best lodging-houses. These Allées enable the pedestrian to move to a considerable distance under shade, protected from the sun, and enjoying the view of the mountains which close the upper end of the valley. This range of peaks and precipices screens from view the Maladetta, the Monarch of the Pyrenees. In the middle distance rises the tower of Castel Vieil, which stops the mouth of the gorge to the S.

At the S. end of the Allée d'Étigny are the *Baths* (*Établissement-Thermal*), a very fine building, faced with a colonnade of 28 marble pillars, leading into a marble hall, des Pas Perdus. It stands in a pretty, well-kept garden, at the foot of a precipitous wooded hill of slate, called Super Bagnères. The waters issue at the junction of the slate with the granite; there are 44 sulphureous, saline, and ferruginous sources; they vary in temperature from 77° to 152° Fahr. The waters are beneficial in rheumatic complaints, paralysis, and cutaneous disorders, but are injurious in nervous affections. They are used internally as well as in the form of baths. This building contains every species of bath ever invented; all constructed in the best style. Bathers enter their names in a book, in order to secure their turn (numéro d'ordre) for bathing at fixed hours. This causes delay, and persons who like to have the day free for excursions should visit the baths not later than the middle of June, when the number of visitors is more limited. The price of the baths varies from 60 c. to 2 frs.

The drinking fountains are at the back of the baths; others about 300 yards farther up the valley. The waters are rendered palatable by the mixture of sirops and liqueurs.

The *Ferruginous Spring* rises 1½ m. up the valley, just above *Castel Vieil*, in a romantic spot, but the water may be had fresh in Luchon every morning at 50 c. the bottle.

The Romans were well acquainted with the hot springs of Luchon; many altars and inscriptions, now in the museum of Toulouse, have been dug up here, some of them dedicated *Deo Lixoni*, from whom the place would appear to be named.

A building has been appropriated to the English Protestant Service. Contributions for its support are much required.

Dr. Lambron has a high reputation as physician. Fee 10 fr. for a visit; 20 fr. when he visits patients at their homes.

Zigzag paths run up the hill behind the baths, through the wood, and along the face of the hill; and have been extended to the so-called English gardens—Jardins Anglais.

The *season* of these baths is from June to the end of August, when they are crowded with French visitors, whose delight it is to go out riding

in large parties, and return charging in a body up the Cour d'Étigny, singing, shouting, and cracking their whips with the greatest glee.

About 300 *horses* and ponies are kept for hire, and are in constant request in fine weather. *Guides:* the majority are useless on foot and not well acquainted with the mountains. The following are experienced and trustworthy, and can furnish good horses:—Laffont; Jacques Sors Argarot, 53 Allée d'Étigny; Jean Tournen (H. Bonnemaison); Baptiste Ciert; and Bertrand Estrujo.

Accurate models of the Pyrenees by Lézat are to be seen daily between 12 and 6 (1 fr.) at the Établissement Thermal, and should be studied before making excursions.

N.B.—A necessary qualification for an excursion into Spain is that the guide should speak Spanish, which many do. At Luchon the quality of the horse is often of more importance than that of the guide.

The inhabitants of the valley of Luchon and its tributaries appear an inferior race to those of the valleys in the W.; not so well off, nor so well clothed. In their dress the berret gives place to an ugly night-cap, and the capulet, if retained, is black, instead of red. Beggars are very numerous, and goitres not uncommon; yet the lower parts of the valleys are fertile, producing two crops of grain in the year; the first of wheat or maize, the second, late in September, when the fields are literally white, from the flowers of buckwheat. Many goats are kept, which find sufficient food in the luxuriant herbage on the rocks; and the tinkling bells of the scampering flock, as they enter the town at sunset, produce a merry sound.

The *Cascade of Montauban*, on the E. side of the valley, is a very romantic spot, and, though the fall is inconsiderable, forms an agreeable walk. It is approached through a garden made by the curé of the village, who charges an entrance-fee of ½ fr. from each visitor.

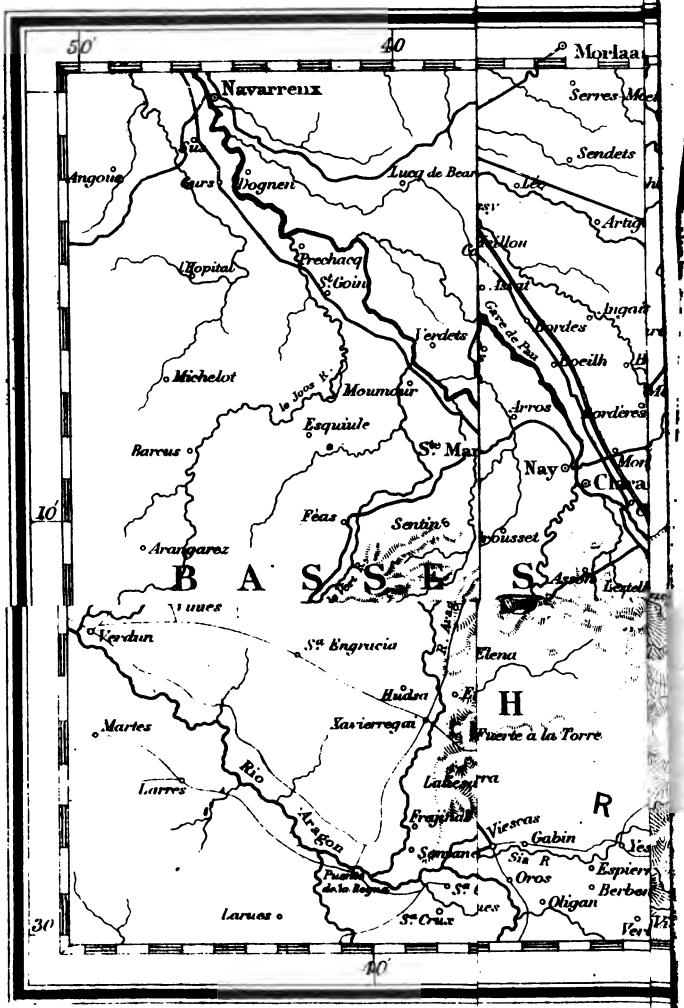
A farther scramble up the course of the stream will repay the pedestrian by bringing him to another Fall; and still farther on, after about an hour's good walking, he will come to an *Oule* or vast circular excavation in the rock. Fine views into the valley beneath. The summit of the mountain, called *Super Bagnères*, rising 2832 ft. above the town, and made accessible for some distance by paths from the village of St. Aventin, commands a nobly magnificent panorama of the flat land on the N., and of the mountains E., W., and S., including the *Maladetta*, whose glaciers appear through a gap in the chain. The tourist may return to Luchon by descending from the top into the Val de Lys.

The *Excursions* to be made from Luchon are superior to those from B. de Bigorre, and are amongst the finest in the Pyrenees.

a. That to the *Lac de Seculéjo* or *Lac d'Oo* will be found noticed in Rte. 87.

b. That to the Port de Venasque, perhaps the grandest of all (Rte. 90).

c. Ascent of the *Pic de Monné* will repay the visitor for the fatigue of a ride of about 5 hours, descent in 4. A guide useful. Take provisions, and start not later than 6 A.M. Follow the road to Arreau by the Col de Peyresourde (Rte. 87) nearly as far as St. Aventin, before which turn rt., N.W., into a bridle-road leading up the valley of Oheil, which traverse through its whole length, through the villages of Benqué Debas and Benqué Dessus and Mayregne, to Bourgdoueil (3½ hrs.). Here the horses rest at a poor cabaret. From Bourg to the Pass or Port de Pierrefitte is 1½ hr. (11½ m. from Luchon), 5925 ft. above the sea, a grassy ridge, occupied by shepherds with their flocks; fierce dogs. There is a footway hence to Arreau, 8 m. in 3 hrs., leaving on l. the Lac de Bordères, passing through Bareilles and Jezeau. From the Port to Pic de Monné on rt. is 40 min. (7044 ft.). You may ride all the way except about


50'
40
Morlaa
Navarrenx
Serres
Sendets
Angoiis
Oloron
Lucq de Bear
Artuj
Hopital
Prechacq
St Goin
Gare de Pau
Michelot
le Joos R.
Moumdur
Esquiule
Arros
Barcus
Ste Mar
Nay
10'
Féas
Sentin
Arangarez
B A S S E S
Verdun
Ste Engracia
Elena
Hudsa
Martes
Xavierregar
Fuente a la Torre
Larres
Rio Aragon
Laloeuvre
Freginal
Viescas
Gabin
Sarsane
Sta R
Oros
Oligan
Berbe
Larues
Ste Croix
30'
40'

Rai
Carr

¼ m. before reaching the top, where the mountain-path disappears. The panorama of mountains seen from the summit is magnificent, including the chief summits of the range, especially the Pic de Midi de Bigorre. The return may be made through the Vallée de l'Arboust, which will lengthen the journey by 1 hour.

d. The *Pic de Bacanère* (Black Cow), a mountain 12 m. N.E. of Luchon, rising midway between the valleys of the Pique and the Garonne, 7080 ft. above the sea, is an interesting 5 or 6 hrs.' ride; a guide will be needed. Take the road down the valley, through the villages Montauban, Juzet (see waterfall), where the steep ascent begins by the village ch. of Sode, turning rt. to Artigues on the mountain side (view of Maladetta), to *Cigalère*, a pointed rock, like a ruined castle. From the top, when the sky is clear, the Nethou, Maladetta, Vignemale, Pic du Midi, and mountains of Catalonia may be seen, with the valleys of Aran and Lucho under our feet. This is one of the most pleasing excursions and ascents. Descending a little from the summit, past a small lake and cabane, in 40 min. the *Pales du Burat* are reached, another ridge farther E., overlooking the valley of the Garonne.

e. The *Val de Lys*, so called, not from its lilies, but from an old or provincial form of the word *eau*, water, owing to the number of its streams and waterfalls, is a ride of 2 h. or a walk of 2½, the distance being 7 m. The road to it ascends the valley from the baths, having the Pique at some distance on the l. 35 min. from the entrance it passes, also on the l., the picturesque border tower of *Castel Vieil*, the hamlet of Bordes, perched on a projecting crag, the Cascade d'Enfer, before the mouth of the Gorge de St. Mamet, leading, by the pass of the Portillon d'Oo, into the Spanish Val of Astos.

Returning to the Valley of La Pique, the road crosses the stream to its rt. bank. At *Pont Ravi*, leaving on the l. that to Venasque, it recrosses the Pique, to enter the fine wooded gorge out of which the Lys issues to unite with it. After a mile and a half's pleasant ride through the wood, under the shade of beech and hazels, the gorge expands into a green pastoral valley, overlooked by very lofty mountains, girt with fir woods, especially at its upper end. It is there shut in by the snowy peaks and glaciers of the Crabioules, rising above the fir-clad precipices. The centre of this curtain of foliage is streaked by the white lines of the foaming cascades which form the lions of this valley. The principal one leaps down into the valley about 200 yards above the first of the two little *Inns* or *Cabanes* (1½ hr.), where visitors put up their horses, and may obtain refreshments. The slate rock is cleft by a very narrow fissure or groove, called *Trou d'Enfer*, down which the fall, really a picturesque one, dashes. The pedestrian may spend an hour or 2 in visiting the series of falls behind the Cabane, accessible by paths and foot-bridges. The fall to the W., called Cascade de Cœur, is less striking in character; it is fed by the glaciers of the Tuque de Maupas. The glacier of Crabioules, 2½ hrs. above the Cabane, is very difficult of access, owing to its steep inclination and its crevices. It joins, on the W., the glacier of the Portillon d'Oo and the Port d'Oo. The pedestrian may go to the Val de Lys or return from it by Super Bagnères, the mountain behind Luchon, whence he will enjoy a magnificent view.

f. The *Val d'Aran* well deserves a visit on account of its magnificent scenery, and of its truly Spanish character. It is said that the valley was first inhabited by thieves and vagabonds (Moors) expelled from Spain. It was ravaged by the Carlists in the late wars, and now contains 32 villages, 69 churches, and 30,000 Inhab. There is a carriage-road up it from St. Béat to the frontier at Pont du Roi, 6½ m.; thence to Viella, a small cart-road. From Luchon the carriage-road may be followed down the valley of the Pique by Cierp and St. Béat, or cross over from the valley of Luchon on horseback by the *Port du Portillon* to *Bosost* in the Val d'Aran.

By *road* from Luchon to Bosost:

13 m. St. Béat . .	Best *Inns*, at Baths of Lez and Bosost.
12 m. Bosost . .	
4½ m. Las Bordas .	
5½ m. Viella . .	

At Cierp a road strikes off rt. to

13 m. *St. Béat* (*Inn:* H. du Commerce, chez Fortan, good), a picturesque town of 1355 Inhab., in a gorge of the Garonne, which leaves barely space for the street and the river. Here is a curious little *Ch.* E. apse partly of 10th cent. Ruined castle on height. Marble quarries.

2 m. *Arlos.* On rt. rises the mountain called *Pales* or *Pic de Burat.* (See above.)

2 m. *Fos*, town of 1727 Inhab., famed for its fruit—grapes, &c.

3 m. *Pont du Roi*, a bridge over a mere rent in the mountain, through which the Garonne passes. Here at the *French frontier* the carriage-road ceases. About 200 yards above this the Maladetta may be seen. The valley here is narrow and grand in the extreme.

4 m. *Lez* is a dirty village with a bathing establishment, and near it the Château de Lez, where accommodation may be had. High above is the village of Canejan.

2 m. *Bosost* (*Inn:* H. de Commerce, dear, but decent food), a very old and dirty town, prettily situated on the Garonne. Here the mule-path from Luchon by the Port de Portillon falls in. The path skirts rt. the base of the Entécade, and at the end of 2 hrs.' walk reaches

5 m. *Las Bordas* or Castel Leon, at the junction of the 2 head-waters of the Garonne—E. the Viella branch (see below), W. the Garonne of Jouéou, descending from the Gorge of Artigues Tellin. The river is here crossed by a bridge near the *Castle*, which was ruined by the French in the War of the Succession. A walk of 3 hrs. from here, up this stream, passing (1 hr. 15 min.) the *Hermitage* of Artigues Tellin, and through a grand gorge covered with dense intact forests (½ hr. farther), brings us to a deep hollow at the foot of precipices, out of which rises one of the *sources of the Garonne*. It issues forth from a series of cavities encumbered with broken rocks called Goueil de Jouéou. The copious stream which here bursts forth is the torrent whose cradle is the snows of the Maladetta, and which, after being lost in the Trou du Taureau (Rte. 90), pursues its way under ground, through the caverns of the limestone mountains, as far as this spot, where it rises a ready-made river.

From Castel Leon the E. and most important fork of the valley may be ascended to Viella. The road is on the l. bank of the Garonne; the scenery is very picturesque, the mountain-side where it is not cultivated is covered with forest, and high up appear numerous curious villages and churches, all on the sunny side of the vale. The road crosses the Garonne 3 m. opposite *Aubert*, and 2 m. farther reaches

Viella (*Inn:* Gilles, tolerable for Spain). This place is prettily situated, but contains nothing worthy of notice except the tower of the ch. Spanish scarves, shawls, caps, and sandals are sold here and throughout the valley, but there is a duty on taking them into France.

Above Viella two passes into the Valley of Barrabes in Spain by the *Port de Viella* (8322 ft.) and the Port Rieux, in 15 hrs. by both to Venasque. By a mule-path from Viella the excursionist can proceed along the upper valley of the Garonne by *Casaril Artias*, *Gesa*, and *Salardu* (*Inn*), whence the most remote source of the great river may be reached in the small tarn or lake of Liat. From Tredos near Salardu are three high passes leading into Spain by the ports of *Caldas*, *Paillas*, and *Ratière*. *See* HANDBOOK FOR SPAIN.

ROUTE 90.

BAGNÈRES DE LUCHON TO VENASQUE, BY THE PORT DE VENASQUE—RETURNING TO LUCHON BY THE PORT DE LA PIQUADE [ASCENT OF THE ENTÉCADE]—THE MALADETTA.

Time.		Miles.
35 m.	Castel Vieil	
1 hr. 25 m.	Hospice de Luchon . .	6¼
2 hrs. 30 m.	Port de Venasque . .	3¼
	Fountain of Peña Blanca	
30 m.	Port de la Piquade . .	1
	Pas de l'Escalette	
	Hospice	5
1 h. 30 m.	Luchon	

None of the excursions from Luchon surpass in beauty of scenery or interest that to the Port de Venasque. Carriage-road as far as the Hospice, but only horses can proceed further. It takes 8 hrs.' walking to reach the town of *Venasque*, the distance being 22 m. The road is the same as that to Val de Lys as far as the 2nd bridge over the Pique above Castel Vieil. Leaving the opening of the Val de Lys on the rt., without crossing this bridge, continue up the valley of the Pique, through park-like scenery of beech forests, whence appear the rugged crags of the Pic de la Pique, and that of Entécade on the opposite side of the torrent. The ascent is gradual up to

6½ m. the *Hospice* de Luchon, the last habitation in France. Here the horses are commonly allowed ½ hour's rest. It is a large, massive stone house, like the Maisons de Refuge on a Swiss mountain-pass, belonging to the Commune of Luchon, farmed out to an innkeeper; the guides will use every argument to induce travellers to bait here both going and returning, which is not necessary. The accommodation is more to the taste of the guides than of their employers; but food, and even a bed, may be had in it. It will be far better to return to Luchon, unless storm or darkness should compel a halt.

[2 hrs.' ride up the valley of the Pique, above the Hospice (including 1 hr. of steep zigzags, leading to fine mountain pasture), conducts to the summit of the ***Pic d'Entécade*, a mountain within the Spanish frontier, commanding superb views of the Maladetta, and other snowy peaks of the Pyrenean chain clothed in splendid pine forests; of the source and valley of the Garonne far below, including numerous Spanish villages. Horses can ascend as far as the small tarn or pool of Garees, near which is a shepherd's hut 700 ft. below the top—7417 ft. above the sea-level. No distinct path exists most part of the way, so a guide is necessary, but the ascent is easy. The whole excursion from Luchon and back on horseback will take about 8 hrs., the ascent requiring 4 hrs.; the return 3 hrs.

Opposite the Hospice, at rt. angles to the vale of the Pique, a colossal semicircular recess, or natural *cirque* surrounded with bare precipices, opens out; it is a scene of dreary solitude, disturbed only by the hoarse raven or the howling blast. It is approached by a little wooden bridge crossing the Pique in front of the hospice, under the singular Pic rising on the l. hand.

On commencing the ascent, one would not easily conjecture that there was any means of exit for the path, much less in what particular point the outlet exists by which the mountains are to be passed. The path ascends constantly in zigzags. At a spot called *le Culet* a waterfall dashes down in summer and avalanches in winter; to escape which, the path crosses the stream. To the l. is a recess called *Trou des Chaudronniers*, because a party of travelling tinkers were here overwhelmed in the snow. The sure-footed ponies climb up the stairlike paths like kids, over rough stones or fallen débris alternating with solid rock. Higher up a strong gusty wind blows down. About 3-4ths of the way up is a small ledge or recess in the face

of the mountain, in which lie 4 small deep-sunken tarns or ponds, frozen over a great part of the year. The steepness and the shortness of the zigzags increase near the top, where the path turns abruptly at every 6 or 8 ft., and the ground is covered with loose splintery shale. The rocks in front hide all view until you enter the

Port de Venasque, 7930 ft. above the sea-level, a wedge-shaped fissure cut into the crest of the mountain;—a mere gate, not more than 14 ft. wide. On passing this, you step from France into Spain, the boundary mark being an iron cross. To tarry in the singular portal or port-hole is hardly possible on account of the wind, which threatens to blow one back again more quickly than he had entered. It is more convenient to descend the sloping rocks a little way to the fountain of Peña Blanca, there to halt and contemplate the scene. On reaching the mountain crest, a view, entirely concealed before, opens out—an enormous mountain, the highest of the Pyrenees, *La Maladetta*, or *Accursed*, from the utterly barren and dreary air of it and everything about it. Its huge round top and ridges are covered with everlasting snow, except where one or two bristling black peaks break through it; its lower part is shrouded with scanty shattered fir-trees: a great gulf or deep ravine separates it from the bare slope on which you stand; not a sign of human habitation or cultivation; all around a desert. There are usually some Spanish carabineers watching the pass from the custom-house at Venasque. Horses are not allowed to enter Spain without a permit, but no difficulty is made to their returning through the Port de la Picade, the usual route taken by excursionists.

On the W. of the port rises the *Pic de Sauvegarde* (9140 ft.), commanding a view on all sides, even to Luchon on the N. The ascent requires an hr., the descent ½ hr.; the Spanish authorities have made a path to the summit, on which a toll of 1 fr. is levied on travellers: an English clergyman (Archdeacon Hardwick) perished by losing his footing in passing over the slaty screes which cover its very steep N. face, in 1859.

In the depths of the hollow below the Port de Venasque, within the Spanish territory, the Essera takes its rise, and a low ridge stretching across at its head unites the Maladetta with the main chain and the mountains of the Port de Venasque. To the E. of this ridge, on the l., lies the *Trou du Taureau*, an oval basin or gulf without visible outlet, excavated in the limestone rock to a depth of 80 ft., which, swallowing up the waters descending from the N.E. slope of the Maladetta, is believed to convey them *under* the intervening mountains into the Spanish valley of Artigues de Lin, where, rising again to light at the Goueil de Jouéou (Eye of Jupiter), they form one of the *Sources of the Garonne*. The Trou de Taureau may be visited by a détour of 3 hrs., returning to the Port de la Picade.

The *Spanish town of Venasque* is 12 m. from the Port, or nearly as far to the S. as Luchon is to the N., *i. e.* a walk of 4 hrs.; but the way is very rough, descending by zigzags the steep slope of the Peña Blanca, following the windings of the Essera, and threading the mass of rocks and rubbish fallen from the gigantic precipice on the rt.

1½ hr.'s walk from the Port on the rt. bank of the stream is the Spanish Hospice, "a vile posada," serving as a guard and custom-house, occupied by carabineers. Here baggage is searched, and passports and permits for the entry of horses into Spain are asked for. Civility and a small fee may be resorted to advantageously. From this to Venasque, about 10 m., the path runs by the side of the Essera, and is very difficult. The scenery of the gorge is grand but savage, its striking feature being the number of its waterfalls, and rapidity of the torrents descending into it. Some way down on l. on the hill-side beyond the river are the Baths of Venasque. Below this

the Essera is crossed by the bridge of Campamiento (3½ hrs.).

The valley becomes clothed with box-trees before reaching the *Pont de Cubère*, which is left on rt.

Venasque—town and Castle—is suddenly disclosed to view by a bend in the valley. It is a wretched and dirty place. (*Inns:* Chez Brousseau, or Chez Pedro Ferras: board and lodging 8 or 10 frs. a day; bread excellent; ask for vino Rancio and for chocolate.) Its most conspicuous feature is the gloomy *Castle* by which it is surmounted, originally a stronghold of the middle ages, converted by modern works into a fortress, which was besieged and taken by the French in 1809, and possesses no great strength. It is surrounded on three sides by deep ravines.

In the principal street, Calle Mayor, are several picturesque old houses ornamented with sculptured figures, coats of arms, &c., and some of these retain the towers which originally served for defence. The *Church*, at the end of the town farthest from the castle, is a Romanesque building, fitted up in the Spanish style, with carving, gilding, &c. Another church was destroyed by the French, who did much mischief here.

The tourist can return from Venasque to the Spanish Hospice and over the Poumero into the gorge of Artigues de Lin, visiting on the way the Goueli de Jouéou, to Bosost, and reach Luchon by St. Béat the 3rd night. Or

The excursion may be prolonged round the base of the Maladetta, from Venasque, through wild and magnificent scenery, sleeping the first night at Venasque, second at *Vidaliés*, third at Bosost. This will be a rough ride, but practicable for ladies.

Port de Venasque to Luchon, by the *Port de la Picade*.

The ridge of the Peña Blanca, or Poumero, through which the Port de Venasque opens, is traversed, about 1½ m. to the E. of it, by another pass, called Port de la Picade, reached by turning to the l. across the sloping rocks, from the spring mentioned above, and then by a steep ascent encumbered with rubbish. A path leads from the Port de la Picade to the Goueil de Jouéou and Artigues de Lin. At the Port the path passes out of Aragon into a corner of Catalonia, and looks down upon a chaos of wild peaks and ridges. ½ m. farther on, the ridge is again crossed by the *Pas de l'Escalette*. The path is carried along the shattered edges of the slaty stone, upon the very ridge or crest of the Sierra. It is a grand wild spot. The gigantic *Pic de Fourcanade*, rising over head, is the striking feature in the near view. From this descend (in 1 hr. 20 m.) to the Hospice de Luchon, by a path marked with tolerable distinctness on the grassy slopes, and, though steep, much easier than that up to the Port de Venasque. Thus the traveller has passed from France into Spain through one door or gap in the great separation-wall between them, and returned through another.

Ascent of the Maladetta from the Port de Venasque, a 10 hours' excursion; very hard work, requiring guides, ropes, and other aids for glacier work. Take provisions. The following route is derived from Mr. Packe, who made the ascent more than once:—

	hr.	min.
Port de Venasque		
Plan des Etangs	1	0
Rencluse	0	40
Portillon	2	0
Summit of Néthou	2	0
1 hour on summit . . .	1	0
Descent—1 hr. halt at Rencluse		
to P. de Venasque . . .	7	0
Luchon	4	0

Cost.	
2 guides, at 15 frs. a day, for 2 days	60 frs.
3 horses, 5 fr. a day	30 „
Food for ditto	5 „
Say, total	95 to 100 „

From the Port de Venasque descend to a marshy flat called Plan des Etangs, extending to the wooded flanks of the Mont Paderne. From a

cabin hut in the midst of it the ascent begins,—to the *Rencluse* (Enclos), a chasm in the rock, into which the waters of the upper Essera, descending from the W. or Maladetta glaciers, sink, and are lost for a time until they reappear near the Hospice of Venasque, just as the waters of the stream descending from the E. glacier of Néthou disappear in the Trou du Taureau. A little above this chasm (100 yds.), on the l. bank of the stream, is the cave of the Rencluse, marked by a few stunted firs. It is a mere shelter of rock where travellers usually pass the night, and light a fire to prepare their victuals. It takes 5 hrs. to reach the summit from the Rencluse cave, recrossing the stream, and following upward the rocky ridge (arête) which divides the glacier of Néthou E. from that of the Maladetta W., till you come to a gap or *Portillon*. Through this descend upon the Néthou glacier. Here the party should be roped together to prevent their being lost in the crevasses, a fate which befell a guide named Barreau in 1824. Passing the bed of a glacier lake which ran out and disappeared 1837, is a dome of ice to scale at a steep inclination, and then to pass a narrow *arête* of blocks of granite piled one on the other, extending 60 yds., with a precipice on either side, called *Pont de Mahomet*. This brings the explorer to the *Pic de Néthou*, the highest summit in the Pyrenees, 11,165 feet above the sea-level, marked by a pile of granite blocks. This peak was first ascended by the Russian naturalist De Tchihatcheff, with a French gentleman and 3 guides, in 1842.

From Venasque the traveller can proceed to *Barbastro*, on the way to Saragosa, a two days' journey on horseback; hire of horses 8 frs. per diem: a diligence runs from Barbastro to Saragosa.

ROUTE 91.

TOULOUSE TO BAGNÈRES DE LUCHON BY ST. GAUDENS.—RAIL.

	Kil.	Miles.
Toulouse to Muret	21	13
Boussens	66	49
St. Gaudens	91	56
Montrejeau	104	64
B. Luchon	140	87

2 trains daily, in 5¼ hrs.

The first part of the line, across the great plain of Languedoc, and along the l. bank of the Garonne, though seldom in sight of the river, is monotonous. The population is dense, and every inch of ground is greedily cultivated. There is not a garden or a flower to be seen. The land, though very fertile, looks arid as a desert, and the towns are most dreary and melancholy. The Pyrenees are yet too distant to form an important feature, but the richness of the soil and abundance of the crops are remarkable. The course of cultivation over most of the plain has been for many years as follows: wheat, sown in the autumn, is taken off in July; buckwheat is then sown, and taken off in October; a green crop is then put into the ground, and taken off in May; Indian corn is then sown, and taken off in autumn; then wheat again, &c. There is a great abundance of fowls, turkeys, and geese.

7 m. *Portet St. Simon* Junct. Stat. [Rail S. to Foix (Rte. 97).]

The Duke of Wellington attempted the passage of the Garonne at Portet, a village on the l. of the rly., 6 m., but the width of the river proved too great for the pontoons provided, and the army consequently crossed farther down, below Toulouse. The confluence of the Ariége with the Garonne takes place opposite Portet.

6 m. *Muret* Stat. (*Inn:* H. de France), a town of 4050 Inhab., on the Garonne. The army of the Comte de Toulouse, aided by Pedro II., king of Aragon, amounting to 40,000 men, was defeated (1213) under the walls of Muret by Simon de Montfort, who made a sortie with 14,000 men, and cut the besiegers to pieces, leaving Pedro dead on the field.

12 m. *Carbonne* Stat. Here Lord Hill crossed the Garonne with 18,000 men; but, finding the roads impassable, speedily returned to march along the l. bank, against St. Cyprien, the faubourg of Toulouse.

13 m. *Martres Tolosane* Stat. (*Inn:* H. d'Espagne; fare good, accommodation mediocre), a dilapidated town, with remains of old walls on a very small scale. In a field near this, interesting Roman antiquities have been discovered, consisting of busts, statues, reliefs, inscriptions, &c., now in the museum of Toulouse, showing this as the site of the ancient *Calagorris Convenarum.* The *Castle of Monpezat* in old times commanded road and river.

The rly. crosses to the rt. bank

3 m. *Boussens* Junct. Stat. [Branch *Rly.* S.E. 20 m. to St. Girons (Rte. 91A.]

4 m. *St. Martory* Stat., which derives its name, like Martres, from the Christians here slain by the Saracens in the wars of the 9th cent.

12 m. **St. Gaudens** Stat. (*Inn:* H. de France, good; H. Ferrière), an old and gloomy town of 5700 Inhab., at a little distance from the Garonne. It owes its origin to a monastery founded 1038 by a shepherd named Gaudens, who, after his head had been cut off by the Saracens, nevertheless ran off with it under his arm (like St. Denis) to the ch. The Convent *Church* (M. H.) is of the 12th cent.; the N. porch Flamboyant, 15th cent. It has 3 apses at the E. end, small round-headed windows, and grotesque capitals to the columns in the choir. The view from here over the plain and the Pyrenees is fine.

The line continues up the l. bank of the Garonne to

8 m. *Montrejeau* Junct. Stat.

Branch Rly. S. to

23 m. **Bagnères de Luchon** Stat. See Rte. 89.

ROUTE 91A.

BAGNÈRES DE LUCHON TO FOIX, BY MONTREJEAU, BOUSSENS, AND ST. GIRONS [CASTILLON, AULUS, MASSAT].

The rly. from Bagnères de Luchon to

23 m. *Montrejeau* Junct. Stat. is described in Rte. 89. Thence to

24 m. *Boussens* Junct. Stat., in Rte. 91. Here a branch line of 20 m. (3 trains daily, 1 hour) turns S.E. along the l. bank of the Salat, a tributary of the Garonne, through a valley possessing some wild and fine scenery, though but seldom visited.

6 m. *Salies du Salat* Stat. (Pop. 860), the name derived from saline springs formerly worked. On hill above ruined castle of Counts of Comminges (keep, 12th cent.).

14 m. **St. Girons** Stat. (*Inns:* H. de France or Chez Ferrière Ainé; H. des Princes or Biros); Pop. 4745; pleasantly situated close to junction of the Salat with the Lez and Baup, in a richly cultivated valley with several factories. The *Church* rebuilt in 1857, except octagon tower (14th cent.).

[2 m. N. is the ancient and decayed town of *St. Lizier* (Pop. 1300), formerly the capital of the Couserans, and retaining many vestiges of the ramparts and other antiquities of the ancient

Austria. The episcopal palace (17th cent.), now a lunatic asylum, is a conspicuous object. The *Church* is of the 11th, 12th, and 14th cents.]

Omnibus daily in 4 hrs., by *La Bastide de Serou*, to E.

31 m. **Foix** Stat., described in Rte. 97.

Omnibus in 1 hr. during summer season to S.W.

7 m. *Castillon*, in the valley of the Lez. (7 m. farther S. is *Sentein*, in the valley of Biros, a picturesque drive through a richly cultivated country with lead and zinc mines.)

From Castillon there is regular communication N.W. to *St. Gaudens* Stat. by way of Aspet and Encausse.

Omnibus from St. Girons during the bathing season in 3½ hrs. S. to Aulus, passing

10 m. *Oust*, a town of 1600 Inhab., on the Garbet, and where gold formerly was obtained by washing the sand of the Salat, and from whence a branch road leads past the ruins of the mediæval castle of La Garde to Conflans, or to *St. Lizier d'Ustou*, where bears are educated.

10 m. *Aulus* (*Inns:* H. Souquet, clean and cheap; H. du Midi or Biros; H. de France; H. Calvet) (2500 ft.), Pop. 898, frequented in summer for its gypseous waters, and possessing 2 small bath-houses, a casino, &c.

1½ hr.'s walk from Aulus up the vallée *d'Arse* is one of the finest cascades in the Pyrenees, height about 600 ft., and in parts very broad. Carriage-road over the Port de Saleix, near which is the Lac or Etang de l'Hers, to Vicdessos (Rte. 97).

Omnibus also daily from St. Girons to

16 m. *Massat* (*Inn:* H. Lapène), Pop. 4140, in the picturesque valley of the Arac. 1 m. N. are remarkable bone-caves. Carriage-road by the *Col du Four* to 19 m. *Tarascon* (Rte. 97).

ROUTE 92.

CAPDENAC TO MONTPELLIER, BY RODEZ, SEVERAC, MILLAU, AND BÉZIERS.

	Rail.	Kil.	Miles.
Capdenac to Viviez		15	9
Rodez		70	44
Severac		110	68
Millau		139	86
Latour		211	131
Béziers		258	161
Montpellier		345	216

This important line, forming a junction between the western railways of France and the shores of the Mediterranean is nearly completed, except the piece between Rodez and Millau. It traverses the Departments of the Aveyron and the Hérault, and the mountains which form the western prolongation of the chain of La Lozère, &c.

From *Capdenac* Junct. Stat., in Rte. 72, the line turns S.E. and follows the l. bank of the river Lot, crossing it to

8 m. *Viviez* Junct. Stat.

[Branch Rly. N.E. to

5 m. *Decazeville*, an important coal and iron producing district—about 30,000 tons of metal being turned out annually, chiefly rails, and 6000 workmen employed; the situation in a pretty valley.]

3 m. *Aubin* Stat. (*Inn:* H. de France), a town of 9000 Inhab., in the centre of this important coal district. The *Ch.* dates from the 12th cent., and there are ruins of a castle.

15 m. *Marcillac* Stat., a town of 3000 Inhab., on the Lot. [An excursion of some interest may be made from here up the valley of the *Dourdon* to *Conques*, the fertility of this valley forming an

agreeable contrast from its waterfalls, gushing springs, orchards, &c., with the high plain destitute of vegetation, which must be crossed to reach it. At the head of the valley rises an old castle, near which a copious spring bursts forth. Following this valley along the banks of the Dourdon for about 12 m., we reach *Conques* (24 m. from Rodez), a small town (1300 Inhab.) half-hidden in a rocky ravine, in the midst of the mountains of the Rouergue, scarcely accessible at some seasons, owing to the badness of the roads. It owes its origin to an ancient Benedictine abbey, whose site it occupies, but the buildings of which have all disappeared, except the *Church of St. Foy* (M.H.), constructed in the 12th cent. It is Romanesque, and much in the style of St. Sernin at Toulouse, with semicircular vaults and arches, the aisles continuing on each side of the transepts; the E. end is terminated by 3 apsidal chapels, and is surmounted at the cross by an octagonal tower more modern than the rest (14th cent.). The W. end is flanked by 2 towers; the central portal is ornamented with a curious bas-relief in the tympanum, representing the Last Judgment, divided into 3 horizontal friezes; in the centre, Christ within the Vesica piscis; on his rt. the good, on his l. the wicked; above, angels; below, on one side, the gates of Paradise, with bolts and a huge lock, and the dead rising from beneath their grave-stones; in the centre, below Christ, an angel and demon weighing souls; on the other side, the gate of hell, an enormous open jaw, into which the devil is thrusting the condemned. Each group and portion of the relief is designated by inscriptions in Leonine verses. The figures are coloured. The *Trésor* of the ch. contains some curious relics of ancient art, which at the Revolution were intrusted to the care of different inhabitants of the town, and were carefully preserved, and restored by them when the political storm had passed away. An ancient *reliquary*, called Charlemagne's A, from its triangular form, and the tradition that it was given by that monarch to the abbey; it is of silver gilt and partly enamelled, and set with polished gems and some antiques; at the base are 2 little figures of gilt bronze, supposed to be less ancient than the upper portion. A statue of St. Foy, 18 inches high, of silver gilt, and studded with precious stones and antique gems, cameos, &c.; a Byzantine enamel of the figure of a saint, on a plate of copper; a silver crucifix of beautiful workmanship; a square slab of red porphyry in a frame of silver, covered with heads of Christ, the Virgin, and Saints in niello. There are also some tapestries of the 16th cent.]

From Marcillac the line traverses two tunnels, and crosses a viaduct, commanding a fine view, to

8 m. *Salles la Source* Stat.

6 m. **Rodez** Stat. 1½ m. from the town (Buffet) (*Inns:* H. Biney, best; H. des Princes; H. de France), chief town of the Dépt. de l'Aveyron, a town of 12,037 Inhab., and occupying a commanding site on an escarped peninsula, surrounded on 3 sides by a curve of the Aveyron, which flows at a depth of 150 ft. below. The tongue of land, which alone connects it with the neighbouring plain, is traversed by the road from Paris and Espalion; from all other sides the town is only accessible by steep ascents.

The *Cathedral* (M. H.), so imposing and conspicuous at a distance, will probably not altogether justify the impression it has produced on a near approach, though it is of large size, and possesses some elegant details. It was founded 1274, but carried on slowly through the 2 following centuries, and never finished. The W. end is destitute of entrance, because of the high altar at the W. as well as at the E. end. Two pointed doorways at the transept end, though mutilated, display some rich ornaments; near the N. transept rises the *belfry*, the pride and boast of Rodez, 265 ft. high, consisting of a square base supporting an octagonal summit, ornamented in the upper part with florid tracery. It is surmounted

by a statue of the Virgin, and was finished 1531.

The interior of the church, 110 ft. high, rests on piers without capitals, and the style of its decorations resembles the perpendicular of English Gothic. At the entrance of the choir is a fine *Jubé* or rood-loft, which, though mutilated, exhibits workmanship of surprising beauty, in the delicate sculpture of its curled foliage. A part of the *screen* intended to surround the choir is of like beauty. The woodwork of the *stalls* and bishop's throne in the choir are of good execution, and were well preserved until painted recently. One of the side-chapels contains a fine *altar-screen* of wood, elaborately carved with bas-reliefs, arabesques, and ornaments partly Gothic, partly classic, in the style of the 16th century. The whole is painted. The partition *screen* to this chapel is of rich open work in stone, Flamboyant in its style. *Obs.* the woodwork of the organ-loft, a Christian sarcophagus, with bas-reliefs of the 5th or 6th cent. The *monuments* of Canon Galhard de Cardaillac (1339), of Raymond d'Aigrefeuille (1316), and in the last chapel that of Gilbert de Cantobre (1349), above which is placed an altar-table of marble, 6 ft. long, with Byzantine ornaments, 10th cent., now used as an altar-screen, and painted with a figure of the Virgin—also deserve attention.

The town abounds in antique houses of the 15th and 16th cents., and contains some of perhaps a still older date. In the *Place d'Omet* there is a house charmingly decorated, *Hotel d'Armagnac* in the style of the Renaissance, with arabesques, medallions richly framed, and in the upper storey with a range of fantastic consoles.

Terraces run round the town upon the line of the old fortifications, and afford agreeable views, though the country round Rodez is not particularly attractive, the valley of the Aveyron being bare.

Rodez was the *Segodunum* of the Romans, and capital of the Gaulish tribe the Ruteni, whence comes its present name. A *Roman aqueduct* still brings water to the town.

On leaving Rodez, the rly., *in progress*, follows the valley of the Aveyron to

28 m. *Sévérac le Château*, 2780 Inhab., situated upon the declivity of a hill near the sources of the Aveyron, and the W. extremity of the Département de la Lozère.

From Severac the line will change its direction from E. to S., following that of the post-road, and crossing an elevated district between the valleys of the Aveyron and Tarn, as far as

18 m. *Millau* Stat. (*Inns:* H. du Louvre; H. du Commerce), the second town (Pop. 15,000) in the Department; a place of a good deal of trade, especially in cheese, leather, and gloves, which are largely manufactured. There is a pretty planted promenade along the quai bordering the Tarn.

The Rly. S. to the Mediterranean is completed from this point, and after following the rt. bank of the Tarn crosses it and enters a hilly region, gradually ascending to near the head waters of the Sorgue.

8 m. *St. Georges* Stat. in the valley of the Cernon. The village lies at the S. extremity of the hilly group of Laveze, surrounded by ancient walls, and with a Gothic bridge over the stream. It has a good bronze statue of Monsig. Affre, Archbishop of Paris, murdered at the entrance of the Faubourg St. Antoine by the insurgents in 1848. The line passes some picturesque gorges to reach

4 m. *St. Rome du Cernon* Stat. [On the rt. is the village of *Roquefort*, which gives its name to one of the choicest cheeses which France produces, which was sent to Rome as a delicacy in ancient times, and was praised by Pliny. It is made with ewe milk, in the mountains 10 m. W. of Millau, about 28 m. E. and S. of Rodez, in the district around St. Rome, St. Afrique, St. Georges, and Millau. About 10,000 cheeses are made annually. The village of Roquefort, of 680 Inhab., where are the principal cellars, is situated 7 m. from St. Afrique, in the midst of the pastures

of Larza, which support more than 100,000 sheep. It occupies the summit of a steep hill, 1970 ft. above the sea—a perfect cheese citadel—honeycombed with caverns (natural and artificial, some of 5 storeys), cut in the limestone, in which the cheese is deposited from an extensive surrounding district, in a cool, equable temperature through the heats of summer, for the purpose of being ripened, the process being hastened by putting bits of mouldy bread into the curds.]

5 m. *Tournemire* Junct. Stat. [Branch *Rly.* to N.W. 6 m. *St. Afrique* Stat. (*Inn:* H. du Cheval vert), a town of 7500 Inhab. on the Sorgues, with a menhir, two dolmens, and tumuli in the neighbourhood. *Diligence* to W. 55 m. *Albi*, in Rte. 72B.]

The Rly. crosses the Sorgues and descends into the valley of the Orb, which flows towards the Mediterranean; this part of the western prolongation of the chain of La Lezère being called the Monts de l'Espinous.

29 m. *Latour* Junct. Stat. [Branch *Rly.* N.W. 3 m. to *Estréchoix*, whence carriage-road to (4 m.) *Graissessac*, a coal-field situated on the S. declivity of the Monts de l'Espinous (see Rte. 126.] The viaduct of Latour is crossed to

3 m. *Bédarieux* Stat. [*Omnibus* to 5 m. the *Baths of Malou.*]

27 m. *Béziers* Junct. Stat., described in Rte. 126. The direct line for Montpellier here turns N.E. by

23 m. *Pezenas* Stat. (*Inn:* H. de la Paix).

7 m. *Paulhan* Junct. Stat.

9 m. *Villevayrac* Stat., before reaching which there is a handsome bridge over the Hérault.

16 m. **Montpellier** Junct. Stat. (see Rte. 126).

ROUTE 93.

TOULOUSE TO NARBONNE, BY CARCASSONNE [CANAL DU MIDI]—RAIL.

	Kil.	Mil.
Toulouse to Villefranche	33	20
Castelnaudary	55	34
Carcassonne	91	56
Narbonne	149	92

6 trains daily, in 3¼ to 5 hrs.

This *Railway* forms the continuation of the Bordeaux and Toulouse line (Rte. 73), the most direct between the shores of the Ocean and Mediterranean.

[The *Canal du Midi*, sometimes called Canal des Deux Mers, because it unites the Mediterranean with the Atlantic, was executed under Louis XIV., by the enterprising Paul Riquet, though the design is clearly sketched out in the Mémoires de Sully. It was commenced 1666 (94 years before Brindley, in England, began the Bridgewater Canal), and finished in 1681, the year after Riquet's death, from the Etang du Thau to Toulouse. The navigation of the Garonne from Toulouse downwards was, however, very bad, and that of the Etang du Thau, between Agde and Cette, all but impossible, so that in this condition it remained for many years. In fact, the canal from Toulouse to Agen, avoiding the difficulties of the Garonne, was only completed a short time before the rly. was opened! and the communication by the Etang du Thau with the Rhone and the Mediterranean was not finished until the beginning of the present cent. The canal is a wonderful work for the age in which it was executed, and, like most foreign canals, on a gigantic and to English eyes extravagant scale. It measures, from the basin where it joins the Garonne at

Toulouse, to near Agde, where it falls into the Mediterranean, 155 Eng. m.; it is 65 ft. 7 in. wide at the surface, and 32 ft. at the bottom. It cost more than 17 million livres = 34 million fr. The summit-level is 719 ft. above the Mediterranean, and there are 46 locks on the declivity towards the Mediterranean, and 18 between the summit-level and Toulouse. The articles transported along the canal consist chiefly of corn, oil, soap, wine, brandy, &c.; it is navigated by barges of 100 tons, but the traffic is not very extensive, judging from the number of voyages yearly to and fro, which is under a thousand. It is closed for a month or 6 weeks once in 3 years for the "chômage" (stand-still), in order to be cleaned. The canal property is divided into 1292 shares, of which 719 belong to the descendants of Riquet, and the remaining 573 to different establishments, in whose favour they were confiscated in 1810 by Napoleon I. The Duke de Caraman is the largest shareholder, to the amount of 427 shares, as descendant from one of the sons of Riquet.]

The railroad lies up the plain of the Lers, and across a rich corn country, but monotonously flat, which before the end of summer becomes parched, dusty, and arid. The canal, and the river Lers, run nearly parallel with it.

12 m. *Montlaur* Stat. This village and the line of rail are very much exposed to the mistral.

9 m. *Villefranche de Lauraguais* Stat., a town of 2829 Inhab., once the capital of the district of Lauraguais.

4 m. *Avignonet* Stat. In the *Church* of this village of 2324 Inhab. is shown the seat of the inquisitors, by whose orders in 1244 the Albigenses were burned at the stake! A party of that persecuted sect, 2 years before, had burst into the castle and murdered the Grand Inquisitor Guillaume Arnaud, 5 friars, and 6 servants of the Holy Office.

We pass from the Dépt. of La Haute Garonne into that of l'Aude. The canal is crossed, and not long after may be seen to l. on the edge of a hilly promontory beyond the town of Montferrand, and about 1 m. from

3 m. *Ségala* Stat., the monumental obelisk to Riquet, erected by his descendants in 1825. It stands not far from the *Bassin de Naurouse*, an artificial reservoir formed for the supply of the canal, which here attains its summit-level (point de partage). The water is derived from a still higher and larger reservoir, *le Bassin de St. Féréol*, measuring 5249 ft. by 2558, situated on the flanks of the Montagnes de St. Felix. It was in the house of the engineer at Naurouse that was signed the armistice between the French and English generals in 1814, after the battle of Toulouse, that put an end to hostilities between the two countries.

6 m. **Castelnaudary** Junct. Stat. (*Inns:* H. La Flèche; H. Notre Dame), a town of 9400 Inhab., on an eminence, skirted at its base by the Canal du Midi.

The name has been traced to "Castrum Novum Arianorum," the name given by the Visigoths to the town, which they refounded. It suffered severely in the crusade against the Albigenses, having been taken both by Simon de Montfort and the Comte de Toulouse: and in 1237 the inquisitors enacted an auto-da-fè here; when, in their desire to root out heresy, they not only burnt many persons alive, but numerous dead bodies, dragged ignominiously from the grave. The most memorable event in the annals of Castelnaudary was the *battle* fought on the banks of the Fresquel, 1632, between the forces of Louis XIII. and of Gaston Duc d'Orléans, at which the Duc de Montmorency was wounded and made prisoner, and soon after conveyed to Toulouse to be beheaded.

[Branch *Rly.* N.E. to *Castres* and *Albi* for Tessonières (see Rte. 72B).]

22 m. **Carcassonne** Junct. Stat. (Buffet). Hotel omnibus from rly.

(*Inns:* H. Bonnet; H. Bernard; H. St. Jean Baptiste, on the Boulevard, near rly., noisy, and far from good.)

This chief town of the Dépt. de

l'Aude, a city of 23,700 Inhab., is traversed by the river Aude, and by the Canal du Midi, which, at first carried at a distance from its walls at the request of the inhabitants, has, in recent times, received at vast expense another direction, in order to bring it up to the town, where it now forms a large *bassin*.

The city is composed of two parts: the modern town (*ville basse*) on the plain, once a suburb of the mediæval Carcassonne which now is the *cité* on a precipitous limestone eminence above it, forming a picturesque background with its venerable towers and battlements. The lower town, cheerful, and industrious, consists chiefly of modern-built houses, in streets ranging at right angles with one another, surrounded by boulevards, occupying the site of its ramparts, including squares planted with trees and furnished with marble fountains, and running with freshening rivulets. It contains several woollen factories, and not less than 7000 persons of the town and its vicinity are employed in the *manufacture of cloth*. From this and other sources of commercial prosperity it has increased, in the course of 4 or 5 centuries, to be a town in itself, while the original city on the height has dwindled down into an insignificant faubourg. The *Cathedral* of St. Michael dates from the 13th cent., and was restored 1850, and deserves notice from its peculiar form—a single nave, without piers, the vault 56 ft. wide, supported on buttresses, between which are chapels; clerestory of circular windows, and a small apse to the E. The *Church of St. Vincent* is similarly built to the cathedral, and has the widest vault in France (66 ft.). The old *glass* is fine, and there is a good picturesque 15th-cent. tower.

The *avenue of trees* planted along the margin of the canal, and embellished with a column of red marble to the memory of Riquet, leads to the aqueduct bridge by which the canal has been carried over the stream of the Fresnel.

There is a small *Museum* (open Sund. and Thurs., 11 to 4), with some fair modern pictures and antiquities, and a public *library* of 18,000 vols. (open daily, 12 to 4), in the old Palais de Justice.

** The *Old Town* or *Cité*, nearly square, and about 1 m. in circumference, on the height beyond the Aude, and approached by 2 bridges, one modern (1846), the other erected in 1184, deserves the notice of all who take an interest in antiquities, as retaining unchanged, to a greater extent than any other in France, the aspect of a fortress of the middle ages, probably the greatest curiosity in the S. of France. A traveller must not be deterred from entering by odious smells, steep, narrow, and desolate streets, with the grass growing in many of them, and the houses falling to ruin, for the old town has been abandoned to persons of the poorer class and to artisans.

It is inclosed by double *ramparts* (M. H.), undergoing restoration (to make the circuit of which a guide is advisable: apply at the Architect-Inspector's office), rising 50 or 60 feet from the face of the cliff, with smooth and perfect masonry, surmounted by battlements, pierced by holes for the archers, and guarded by *towers*, most of them round, but a few square at the back, and semicircular where they project from the wall. A portion of the inner line is attributed with much probability to the Visigoth kings, successors of Alaric, 5th cent.; some of the towers rising from Roman foundations; the rest, including the castle, with its curious postern, seems to be of the 11th or 12th cent., while the outer circuit has been referred to the time of St. Louis, the latter end of the 13th. The former are therefore the same defences which withstood for a time the assault of the army of Crusaders under Simon de Montfort and the Abbot of Citeaux, who, reeking with the blood spilt at Béziers, laid siege to Carcassonne, 1210, where a vast number of fugitives, together with the Viscomte de Béziers, had taken refuge. At the intercession of the King of Aragon, his uncle, the papal legate promised to spare his life and those of 12 others

with him; but the brave young warrior rejected these terms, declaring that he would sooner be flayed alive than betray one of those who had endangered themselves for his sake. Finding, however, that, owing to the number of men, women, and children who had poured in from the surrounding country, it was impossible to hold out, he managed to let them escape by a secret passage, and surrendered under a promise of safe-conduct for himself. He was nevertheless treacherously seized, and soon after died in prison, while of those who remained in the town 50 were hung and 400 burnt alive. In 1356 this fortress effectually resisted the Black Prince, who burnt the suburb below, and ravaged with fire and sword the whole of Languedoc. A curious *Barbican*, defended by a circular tower, built by St. Louis and destroyed in 1821, projected from the walls below the Castle, on the side nearest the modern town. On the site a *Ch.* has been erected from the designs of M. Viollet-le-Duc.

The *Castle* is not far from the N.W. corner of the city: the interior has lost its interest now that it is converted into a barrack; it is flanked by towers, surrounded on three sides by a broad ditch, and still retains a smaller barbican. One of the towers has been split into two: the half, though fallen, was not broken to pieces —such is the thickness and solidity of the masonry. The legend respecting it is, that Charlemagne, after in vain besieging for several years the town, which held out, though defended only by a Saracen woman named *Carcas*, was about to raise the siege in despair, when this tower gave way, and opened a breach by which his army entered. The figure of this Saracen Amazon is still to be seen rudely carved over the *Porte Narbonnais*, on the E. side of the cité. This gateway is a fine specimen of mediæval work, and has been restored; *obs.* the window openings and fire-places of the 2 large halls on the 1st floor (14th cent.), the stone corbels supporting the wooden beams in the hall on the 2nd floor, and the 3 spiral staircases, the middle one, terminating abruptly, is supposed to have been intended as a trap for the besiegers.

The *Ch. of St. Nazaire* (M. H.), formerly cathedral, at the S. end of the old town, consists of a Romanesque *nave*, part of the ch. dedicated by Pope Urban II. in 1096, designed externally for defence, and supported by massive alternately round and square piers. It opens into a light and lofty Gothic *choir* and transepts of great beauty and of pure northern style, added at the beginning of the 14th century (1321), by Bishop Pierre de Rochefort, whose tomb is in one of the chapels on N. of nave. The whole of the E. part of the church, including two circular windows, is filled with painted glass of great brilliancy of colour. On one side of the high altar a slab of red marble is said to mark the first grave of Simon de Montfort, Earl of Leicester, who, steeled in the wars of the Crusades, turned at the bidding of the Pope the sword whetted against the infidels upon the heretical Christians, the unfortunate Albigenses; his remains were removed 5 years after his death to Montfort l'Amaury in Picardy. The marble monument of Bishop Radulph, date 1266, is placed in a side-chapel. In another of the chapels is a *bas-relief* representing an assault of a besieged town, probably of the 13th cent. This church has been restored under the direction of M. Viollet-le-Duc, and large blocks of masonry, in parts, have replaced the small stones or *moëllons* of which it was originally constructed. The interior is a perfect gem of architecture, and unlike anything in France. The 11th-cent. crypt has been restored.

There is a fine distant view from the ramparts across 60 miles of undulating country to the Pyrenees, which stretch across the whole S. horizon.

Carcassonne was the birthplace of the Revolutionist *Fabre*, who added to his name that of *d'Eglantine* because he had gained the prize of the golden sweetbrier in the floral games at Toulouse: he began his career as an actor, and ended it on the scaffold in 1793.

Rly. from Carcassonne to Limoux,

and *in progress* to Quillan (see Rte. 100), by the upper valley of the Aude, a line that will form an interesting route into the heart of the Eastern Pyrenees, and a direct communication with Mont Louis, and the Cerdagne Française.

[At *Caunes*, 12 m. N.E. of Carcassonne, are the quarries of marble commonly used in churches and other public buildings in the S. of France. They are associated with slates of the Paleozoic series, and furnish 4 sorts: 1. flesh-coloured, much employed by Louis XIV. and XV.; 2. marbre cervelas; 3. grey marble containing encrinites; 4. Griotte, including nautili. One variety is called "œil de perdrix."]

On quitting Carcassonne the railroad crosses the Canal du Midi, and soon after the river Aude, and runs for some distance by the side of it. The canal makes a bend to the N., its new channel being cut through deep excavations. The cultivation of the olive begins near this, though the tree can scarcely be said to flourish hereabouts.

10 m. *Capendu* Stat. Near this, a little to the N. of the canal, is the drained lake of Marseillette, converted from a useless pool or morass into 7200 acres of excellent arable land by the enterprise and capital of Madame Lawless, an Irish lady domiciled in France. The drainage was completed 1850, by the construction of a tunnel near a mile long, the ground is now portioned out into 24 farms.

Between *Moux* and *Marcorignan* Stats. the railway is carried through narrow gorges between naked rocks.

19 m. **Narbonne** Junct. Stat. (Buffet) (*Inns:* H. de France; H. de la Dorade). Pop. 17,266.

This very ancient, intricate, curious, but lifeless town, about 8 m. from the sea, and with the *La Robine* branch of the Canal du Midi running through it, was the *Narbo Martius* of the Romans, one of the first colonies established by them beyond the Alps, and capital of the province of Gallia Narbonensis, which extended from the Alps to the Pyrenees, the "pulcherrima Narbo" of Martial. It was here that Julius Cæsar settled what remained of his 10th Legion, at the termination of the civil wars. It was the birthplace of Carinus and Numerianus, sons of the Emperor Carus and of Terentius Varro, the friend of Cicero; but it retains scanty vestiges of its ancient masters. Not one Roman building remains; all having been pulled down to furnish materials for the fortifications erected by Louis XIII., in great part composed of masonry of Roman monuments, Arab ramparts (for the Arabs held Narbonne for half of the 8th century), and mediæval fragments. They have been pulled down since 1865, greatly to the benefit of the town.

The principal objects of interest are the *Hôtel de Ville*, its *Towers*, the *Museum* and the *Churches* of St. Just and of St. Paul.

Near the Cathedral, in the centre of the town, is the *Hôtel de Ville* (M. H.), once the Archbishop's palace, partly rebuilt in the style of 15th cent. by M. Viollet-le-Duc. Attached to it are three ancient towers. La Tour des Télégraphes dates from the beginning of the 14th cent.; it is battlemented, pierced with loopholes, and furnished with turrets. Within it Louis XIII. signed the order for the arrest of Cinq Mars and De Thou for conspiracy, at the instigation of the moribund Richelieu, whose archers caught them as they were escaping from the town.

A local antiquarian society has collected together in a *Museum* in the Hôtel de Ville, and in the palace garden, a number of architectural and sculptured fragments, Roman, Phœnician, Hebrew, and Visigoth; Christian tombs of the 3rd and 4th centuries; a bas-relief of 2 Eagles supporting a Garland; an altar to Augustus, erected to him by the people of Narbonne, B.C. 11—it stood in the Forum; a statue of Silenus, dug up on the line of rly., some tapestry of the 16th cent., &c. In the *Picture Gallery* are many old paintings from convents and churches. Some works of the Spanish school de-

serve notice. Adjoining the museum is the *library* of 10,000 vols.

The *Church of St. Just* (M. H.) is a fine Gothic edifice, of which the choir only has been completed (1272–1330). Though so far S., it is in a pure Northern style, and is remarkable for the science and skill with which so light and airy a building has been carried up to such a vast height without any subsequent settlement. The height of the roof is 131 ft. The side chapels were added during the 15th cent., and the incomplete portions of the Cathedral to the W. were erected in the end of the last cent. Some of the windows having Flamboyant tracery are of the 16th. There is a good deal of painted glass in them. The high altar is rich in marbles of the country. The magnificent white marble monument of Bishop de la Jugie (ob. 1376) is a model of the Gothic style of the 14th cent. The statues of saints and bishops are admirably executed, but in the revolutionary frenzy the head of every statue was knocked off, and the Bishop's effigy removed; it, with one of the bas-reliefs, is now in the Museum at Toulouse. There are other tombs of the 15th and 16th cents., and a good organ of 1741. In the *Trésor* are fine ivories of the 11th and 12th cents.; portable altar and missals, 14th to 16th cent. Repairs and additions are being made to the building, and the completion of the nave, attempted at different periods, is intended. Narbonne is no longer an Archiepiscopal See, although the title is borne by the Archbp. of Toulouse.

Behind the altar are some iron seats, in the form of an X, of considerable antiquity. Sebastian del Piombo's "Raising of Lazarus," now in our National Gallery, was painted for this church, as a present from Cardinal Giulio de Medicis, afterwards Clement VII., who was Archbishop of the diocese: there is a copy of it by Vanloo here. There are some good illuminated MSS. in the Sacristy, especially the Pontifical of Archbishop de la Jugie, and an Evangelarium of the 8th cent.

From the summit of the tower a fine *view* is obtained, embracing the sea, the Cevennes, and the Pyrenees.

The Romanesque *Church of St. Paul* (M.H.), outside the city walls, founded 1229, may interest the architect, although much despoiled and mutilated. The carved capitals of the columns on the outside represent monsters, demons, and other objects designed to disgust men with vice, and to remind them of the punishment that awaits them.

The principal Promenade is an avenue of trees called *Allée des Soupirs*.

The *honey* of Narbonne is celebrated; it is very white, and has a highly aromatic flavour, from the bees feeding on the heath that abounds in the locality. The *wine* made here is principally used for mixing with the poorer products of the centre and N. of France.

[6 m. S.W. of Narbonne are the remains of the *Abbaye de Fontfroide*, of which the cloister (M. H.) of the 13th cent., restored in the 14th and 18th cents., is very handsome, all its buildings remaining, and inhabited by Cistercian monks. The ch. is rather plain, of the end of the 12th cent.; off it opens a chapter-house.]

Railway to Béziers, Cette, and Montpelier (Rte. 126); to Perpignan (Rte. 94).

ROUTE 94.

NARBONNE TO PORT VENDRES, AND THE SPANISH FRONTIER, BY PERPIGNAN—RAIL.

	Kil.	Miles.
Narbonne		
La Nouvelle	21	13
Salces	46	29
Rivesaltes	56	35
Perpignan	64	40
Elne	77	47
Collioure	91	56
Port Vendres	93	57

Three trains daily, in 2 to 2½ hrs., to Perpignan; in 3 and 3½ to Port Vendres.

The country traversed by the line is uninteresting, skirting on the rt. the low chains of the Corbières, consisting of bare rocks without trees or herbage; only a few bristly plants, and tufts of the heath, on which feed the bees which produce the Narbonne honey; and on the l., the salt lagoons, or shallow lakes, called Etangs de Bages, de Sigean, de la Palme, and de Leucate, which here line the shore of the Mediterranean. The district is unhealthy, owing to the miasma from this marshy tract. At intervals, when the line surmounts a slight eminence, a glimpse may be obtained of the open sea beyond the salt marshes. After leaving Narbonne, the rly. gradually approaches the sea.

13 m. *La Nouvelle* Stat. (at the extremity of the Etang de Sigean, the rly. having run for several miles between the latter and the Etang de Gruissan), a seaport town of 1996 Inhab., which has risen into existence since the acquisition of Algeria by France. It is the only port between Agde and Port Vendres.

[*Omnibus* to 3 m. *Sigean*, a town of 3500 Inhab., situated on the margin of the lagoon of the same name, the scene of a victory gained by Charles Martel over the Saracens, 737.]

7 m. *Leucate* Stat. stands on the edge of the Etang de Leucate, a half-deserted town: a place of strength and importance during the period when Roussillon belonged to Spain, and Leucate stood on the frontier of France. The extremity of the chain of the Pyrenees, stretching into the sea, may be discerned from near this.

8 m. *Salces* Stat. The village (Pop. 1206) derives its name from 2 saline springs mentioned by Strabo. The fort on the rt. was begun 1497, and finished about 1503, by the engineer Ramirez; it is now a powder-magazine.

6 m. *Rivesaltes* Stat., upon the small stream of the Agly (Pop. 5600), famed for its sweet wine, Muscat Malvoisie, &c., and the chief centre of the Roussillon wine trade.

Catalan, a dialect of the ancient Provençale, begins to be spoken about here.

The two branches of the torrential river Tet are crossed before reaching Perpignan; between them stands the suburb of Notre Dame; and on the rt. bank the lofty castle of *Castellet*, a double tower of brick, surmounted by machicolations erected by Charles V.: it has been converted into a military prison.

5 m. **Perpignan** Junct. Stat. (*Inns:* Grand Hotel Bosc, near the Préfecture; H. de l'Europe; H. de France; H. Petit Paris).

This chief town of the Dépt. des Pyrénées-Orientales, a fortress of great strength, defending the passage by the E. Pyrenees from Spain into France, is situated on the rt. bank of the *Tet*, 8 m. from, and only 70 ft. above, the sea, in the midst of the plain of Roussillon, and contains 27,378 Inhab. As Roussillon, of which province it was the capital, was not permanently united to France until the Treaty of the Pyrenees, in 1659, it is not surprising that both the town, in its narrow dirty streets covered with awnings, its semi-Moresque buildings, its houses furnished with wooden balconies and courts (patios), and its inhabitants, especially the lower orders, should resemble those of Catalonia, in their physiognomy, language, dress. Those to whom Spain is unknown will be struck with this novel character; but beyond this there is not much to interest the stranger here. Almost all the public buildings date from the Spanish period, and are of brick or rolled pebbles.

The *Cathedral of St. Jean* (M.H.) was founded by Sancho II., King of Majorca 1324; the choir was roofed and continued by Louis XI., during the time he held Roussillon in pawn from the king of Aragon. The nave (without aisles, and a vault 60 ft. in span) was finished in 1509, and the W. front erected by Philip II., 1577. The altar-screen, of carved work, partly wood, partly stone, in the style of the Renaissance; and the massive frame-work, gilding, tapestries, &c., are thoroughly Spanish in style. The marble font, in the form of a tub, is of the 8th or 9th cent.; some

attribute it to the time of the Visigoth kings. Adjoining this ch. are remains of a still older one (Romanesque, 11th cent.), now in ruins, called *St. Jean le Vieux*. Of the ch. and *convent* of the Dominicans, now a military store, a portion, in the Romanesque style, belongs to the edifice which St. Dominick, the founder of his Order, inhabited when he entered Roussillon.

The Bourse called *Loge* (Span. *Lonja*) has a cloister round its court, an example of the mixed Moresque and Gothic styles of the end of the 14th century. Its façade, exhibiting Flamboyant ornaments, foliage and tracery, though much mutilated and injured by alterations, and the covered galleries round the court behind, merit notice.

The ancient *University* contains the *Public Library* of 20,000 vols., and the commencement of a *Museum*. It possesses some pictures of the French school—Greuze, Geriscault, &c.; and in the floor above collections of Natural History, a thermometer that belonged to Galileo (gift of Arago); butterflies of America.

The *Citadel*, separated from the town by a wide glacis, and surrounded by a double line of works, is considered very strong, and commands the town. The inner ramparts were raised by the Emperor Charles V., the outer by Vauban, around the nucleus of a *Castle* built by the 1st king of Majorca, the only relic of which is the **Doorway* of the chapel, Saracenic in style—a pointed arch faced with slabs of marble, red and white alternately, resting on columns whose capitals represent fighting dragons. From the citadel there is a magnificent *view* over the plain of Roussillon, extending 15 m. on all sides, save that towards the sea, and surrounded by a semicircle of mountains, the most elevated being the Pyrenees on the S., though they are still distant. The only mountain which makes a conspicuous figure in the panorama is the *Canigou*, the highest in this portion of the chain.

The *Promenades* are exceedingly fine, especially *La Pepinière*, on the banks of the Tet.

Perpignan is more remarkable as a fortress than a place of commerce, but some trade is carried on in *wines* of Roussillon, also in cork-bark from the mountains, and in wool and cloth, and its market gardens covering the plain around the town are celebrated.

François Arago, the astronomer (d. 1853), was born at Estagel (Rte. 100), a village 13 m. N. of Perpignan; he represented the Dept. of the Pyrenees Orientales for many years in the French Parliament.

[Branch *Rly.* to Prades (Rte. 98).]

The direct line continues to

9 m. *Elne* Stat. (Pop. 2800), the ancient *Illiberis*, mentioned by Pliny as "ingentis quondam urbis tenue vestigium," and by Livy as the place where Hannibal first encamped, after crossing the Pyrenees on his march to Rome, "Pyræneum transgreditur, et ad oppidum Illiberis castra locat." A.U.C. 556. It was rebuilt by Constantine, who gave it the name of his mother Elena. The *Ch. of St. Eulalia* (M.H.), once the cathedral, and episcopal see of Roussillon before Perpignan, is of the 12th cent., in the Romanesque style, but has a pointed roof; it is quite plain internally, but the little *Cloister* adjoining, rebuilt in the 14th cent., with many of the pillars and other materials of the 12th, is very elegant, and is worth notice. It is entered from the ch. by a pointed doorway resembling that in the citadel of Perpignan. The ch. and cloister contain some monuments and many inscriptions and basreliefs let into the walls; one of them is called the Tomb of Constans, who was assassinated at Illiberis by order of Maxentius.

[From Elne a road leads W. through the village of *Bages*, and crossing the road from Perpignan to Boulou ascends an eminence, on the summit of which is perched an extensive pile of buildings known as *Masdeu* (? Maison-dieu), formerly an ancient commanderie of the Knights Templars, who existed here as early as 1132, and in 1271 possessed large estates throughout Roussillon, Cerdagne, Valespir, and Confient, cultivating their vineyards by the aid of Saracen slaves. They shared the fall of their order, and, in 1310, were condemned to death by the Bishop of

Elne; and of the ancient buildings scarcely anything remains beyond the ruined walls and a few fragments of sculpture of the 16th cent., the site being now occupied by the vast *cuverie* and vineyard belonging to the *Durand* family, who are large producers of Roussillon, sold in England under the name of Masdeu, and derived from three varieties of grape—the Carignan, the Grenache, and the Mataro, planted in the plain and on gently-inclined slopes exposed to the S., and in a loose stony soil.]

On quitting Elne the river Tech is crossed.

5 m. *Argeles-sur-Mer* Stat., situated in the midst of a fine and fertile country, dominated by the range of the *Albères*, forming the E. extremity of the Pyrenean chain, with its rocky peaks gradually diminishing in height as they near the sea coast, and there forming a number of headlands and retreating coves or bays. A tunnel is pierced through a promontory, to reach

4 m. *Collioure* Stat. (*Cauco-Illiberis*), a dirty seaport town of 3651 Inhab., on a semicircular bay. Its fortifications are dismantled since 1866, except Fort St. Elme, between it and Port Vendres. At the entrance of the harbour rises a little rocky island bearing a Pilgrimage Church, dedicated to the Virgin. The town is surrounded by vineyards: the rocks, bare as they are, suffice to maintain the vine, and even the aloe, and produce some of the best wines in the department, although, from the absence of rain, the whole of this sandy district is dependent on artificial irrigation. At the head of a cool and shady valley 1½ m. distant is the Hermitage and Chapel of *N. D. de la Consolation*, a pleasant walk and pretty view.

2 m. **Port Vendres** Stat. (*Inn:* H. du Commerce, kept by Durand, one of the best in these parts, good cuisine, and moderate), a town of 2364 Inhab., and a harbour of some consequence, as it is the only good refuge for shipping between Marseilles and the Spanish frontier, and is accessible for frigates. It is defended by 4 forts and 4 batteries, but is entirely commanded by the heights behind. It has gained of late in importance, from its increased communication with Africa, many of the troops destined for Algiers being embarked here, and the telegraph cable to Algiers starts from this point. The *bathing* establishment is badly situated, Small apartments can be found, and the place combines picturesque mountain scenery, including glorious views of the Canigou. Provisions are rather scarce. The *obelisk*, 100 ft. high, in the square, was raised to Louis XV., who caused the harbour to be excavated and made available. The ancient name of this place was *Portus Veneris*, from a temple of Venus, built by the Romans. From the lighthouse and semaphore on the hill of *Cap Bear*, to the S. of the port, there is a splendid view.

The Rly. continues to

3½ m. *Banyuls-sur-mer* Stat. (*Inn:* H. Louvet, fair). There is excellent bathing here and tolerable apartments may be obtained, but the streets are very dirty. (Pop. 3008.) In this neighbourhood the best wines of the Départ. are grown. A mule-path leads over the Col de Banyuls to Figueras, and another along the coast to Cadoques, an hour's walk from which is *Cap Creus* (Aphrodisium), the most easterly point of the Pyrenees.

The rly. is in construction from Port Vendres to the frontier at Cerbère (7 m.), and thence to La Gerona, from which point there is rail to Barcelona, Saragossa, Madrid, Pampeluna, &c. (*See* HANDBOOK FOR SPAIN.)

The steamers from Marseilles to Barcelona touch here.

The boundary between France and Spain is on the summit of a ridge that ends at Cape Cerbera. The high point seen beyond is Cap Creus, behind which are situated the town and bay of Rosas.

The *carriage-road* into Spain from Perpignan proceeds direct S. across the monotonous plain of Roussillon, but, as it gradually approaches the Pyrenees, commands a fine view of the Canigou on the rt.

14 m. *Le Boulou* (*Inn:* H. du Commerce), a village and bathing establishment, of 1333 Inhab.: 4 mineral springs supply the baths, prettily situated, about 1 m. S. The *Ch.* is of the 10th cent. This place lies at the foot of the mountains, on the Tech, whose valley is described in Rte. 99. The stream is crossed on quitting Boulou, and about a mile farther the ascent begins, the road making many sharp curves, up to the pass or *Col de Perthus*, which may be reached in 1¼ hr. Half-way, upon the l. of the road, are the ruined *Castles* of Les Ecluses (Clusæ), dating from the times of the Visigoths, and mentioned in the history of the revolt of Paul against Wamba, King of Spain (673). At the summit on the rt. of the col, on a height above the village of Perthus, stands the fort of *Bellegarde*, constructed by Louis XIV., in 1679, to command the passage into Spain. It is a regular pentagon with 5 bastions, on one of which, facing Spain, General Dugommier, killed in the battle of the Montagne Noire, on the road to Figueras, in 1794, is buried.

This pass was crossed by the army of Pompey, who erected upon it a trophy of his successes, inscribed with the names of 876 places which he had subdued. Cæsar followed not long after, and raised an altar by the side of the monument of Pompey, over whose lieutenants he had, in turn, been victorious. No traces of either now remain.

Junquiera, the first Spanish town, 15 m. from Boulou, and the road to Figueras and Barcelona, are described in the HANDBOOK FOR SPAIN.

Railway from Gerona to Barcelona.

ROUTE 97.

THE EASTERN PYRENEES. — TOULOUSE TO FOIX (RAIL) AND PUYCERDA — THE VALLEY OF THE ARIÉGE — VIDESSOS — ANDORRE.

		Kil.	Miles
Toulouse to Portet St. Simon	Rail.	12	7
Auterive		34	21
Saverdun		43	27
Pamiers		65	40
Foix		83	51
Tarascon		100	61
Ax		120	74
Hospitalet		140	86
Puycerda		166	99

3 trains daily to Foix, in 3 hrs. At 7 m. *Portet St. Simon* Junct. Stat. this line turns to the l., from that to Tarbes (Rte. 91), and crosses the Garonne, ascending the Valley of the Ariége; rich in wines, orchards, and corn.

14 m. *Auterive* Stat., a town of 3900 Inhab., on the Ariége.

4 m. *Cintegabelle* Stat., a town of 4039 Inhab., at the junction of the Lers. Here Lord Hill passed the Ariége in 1814.

6 m. *Saverdun* Stat., a town of 3900 Inhab., was the birthplace of Pope Benedict XII.; he was the son of a baker or miller. [At *Mazères* on the Lers, 5 m. to the E., Gaston de Foix, the hero of the battle of Ravenna, was born in 1489.]

10 m. *Pamiers* Stat. (*Inn:* H. Grand Soleil), a cheerful and pretty town. Pop. 8690. A *Cathedral*, surmounted by an octagonal Gothic tower of brick, preserved by Mansard when he rebuilt the nave in the style of the 17th century. The beautiful *promenade de Castellat*, on an eminence beyond the Cathedral, looks upon the distant Pyrenees.

[About 12 m. E. of Pamiers, by a fair road (*Omnibus* daily), is *Mirepoix*, a town of 4187 Inhab., in the upper valley of the Lers, giving a ducal title

to the Levis family. It has an unfinished *Ch.* (M. H.) of 1401, with fine octagonal spire and 7 chapels of somewhat later date round the choir. The ruined *Castle* and bridge are worth seeing, and there are pretty walks in and about the town.]

The valley contracts in width and increases in beauty at

5 m. *Varilhes* Stat.

6 m. **Foix** Stat. (*Inns:* H. Lacoste, best; H. Rousse, fair, 6 to 7 frs. a day), the ancient capital of the Comté de Foix, and now of the Dépt. de l'Ariége. It is one of the smallest chef-lieux in France, its population not exceeding 6746, occupying a very picturesque site, at the junction of a stream called the Larget with the Ariége. It fills up the mouth of the valley, here bounded by precipitous hills, and lines either bank of the rapid river, whilst an isolated rock, *Rocher de Foix*, rising from amidst the houses, sustains the ancient *Castle* (M. H.), of the Counts, who resisted with such invincible courage the attacks of the kings of France and Aragon, and whose line terminated with the chivalrous Gaston, killed at Ravenna. The town is known by the name of *Foix les Tours*, from its lofty towers, built of a coarse whitish marble, and preserved unstained owing to the dryness of the climate. Part, also, of the ancient ramparts have resisted time's decay; and the antique character of many of the houses, together with "the magic of a name," have thrown a colouring over it that makes it, although now unimportant and remote, a spot interesting to the tourist.

The *Castle*, now converted into the *Palais de Justice*, and much injured by modern buildings, is approached by a very narrow, steep path, bending, with very abrupt turns, along the edge of the precipice. Of its 3 towers, all of different ages, the tallest, or donjon, 136 ft. high, is the most modern, and was built 1362 by Gaston Phœbus, Count of Foix: it commands a fine panorama from its top. Simon de Montfort in vain besieged this stronghold, in 1210, during the wars of the Albigenses; and at a later period, 1272, Philippe le Hardi, unable to take it by other means, began to undermine the rocky pedestal, with the intention of toppling it over, together with the fortress on the top of it! Such, at least, is the popular tale; and though there seems little possibility that such a threat could have been accomplished in days when gunpowder was unknown, it had the effect of inducing the garrison to surrender.

The *Préfecture* was originally part of the abbey of St. Volusien, suppressed at the Revolution, and contains the *library* and a collection of coins. The church of St. Volusien, rebuilt by Roger II., Comte de Foix, is a heavy Gothic building.

There is a handsome promenade, La Villotte, by the side of the Ariége. About 12 m. W. of Foix the philosopher Bayle, author of the well-known Dictionary, was born, 1647, in the village of Carlat le Comte.

Excepting the castle, there is little in the town to attract notice,—but the country around is lovely.

A considerable trade in iron, the staple of the Dépt. de l'Ariége, derived from the mines of Rancié, in the Vicdessos valley, is carried on here. The metal is embarked on the Ariége at Auterive, below Foix.

Diligence to Ussat (12 m. in 2 hrs.); to Ax (26 m. in 4¼ hrs.); to St. Girons (31 m. in 4 hrs. Rte. 91A); to Quillan (38 m., Rte. 100).

The valley above Foix is bare of trees, but productive in corn and wine; the vine itself being frequently planted on the heaps of boulder-stones cleared away from the fields, where they are otherwise so numerous as to hinder cultivation.

Rly. in progress; in the mean time *Diligence* daily, following the road up the rt. bank of the Ariége to

10 m. *Tarascon* (*Inn:* H. Gabach, fair), a town of 1534 Inhab., having also its ancient castle on a rock above it, stands at the junction of several valleys,—that of Vicdessos, in which the iron-mines of Rancié are situated (see below)—that of Saurat (near the entrance of which is the fine cave of Bédeillac),

up which runs a carriage-road to St. Girons, by the Col du Four and town of Massat (Rte. 91A), and—that of the Ariége.

[Tarascon to *Vicdessos* (diligence twice daily, 9 m., 1½ hr., 1 fr.). The valley of Vicdessos is rendered prosperous by its iron-mines and smelting-works. It is embellished by the neat houses and gardens of the ironmasters and miners, and by several picturesque old castles, among which that of Miglos is conspicuous.

The village of Vicdessos (*Inn:* H. de la Renaissance, clean) has 899 Inhab., and is surrounded by furnaces. A steep path leads from here, in 1½ hr. by the village of Sem, to the *iron mines of Rancié*, worked, for the last 6 centuries, in the face of a mountain through a vertical height of about 2000 ft. The ore is found in bands and masses alternating with limestone, belonging, apparently, to the Lower Jurassic (lias) formation, and within a short distance of granite, it consists of red and brown hæmatite and carbonate of iron, usually mixed together, and often contains 60 per cent. of metal. This mine, and many others in the Pyrenees, though containing abundance of ore, and yielding iron and steel of very superior quality, are at present of little value, for the reckless exhaustion of forests, and the expensive nature of the Catalan smelting process, exclude the native ore from competition with the now generally-introduced inferior, but much cheaper, products of the great English and Belgian furnaces. From Vicdessos, a good climber may gain the summit of the *Estats* (10,306 ft.) in 6 hrs.

The road to Aulus and St. Girons (Rte. 91A) mounts westward from Vicdessos and crosses the Port de Saleix (5909 ft.).

Three paths lead from Vicdessos into Andorra, the best is that by the village and Port of *Siguer* (8500 ft.), 9 to 10 hrs.' rough walking to Ordino. (*See* Andorra.) Another path leads by Lartigues over the Port de Tabescan to *Tabescan* (8 hrs.), in the valley of Cardos in Catalonia, 4 hrs. below which is Slavorri in the valley of Noguera.]

About 2 m. above Tarascon, but in the valley of the Ariége, at a point where the valley is closed by mountain-walls of limestone, barely allowing a few box-bushes to take root in their crevices lies

Ussat-les-Bains (*Inns:* H. Cassagne fils, best rooms; H. Chaumont, best cuisine; H. Rouan ainé; H. Cassagne, &c.). Prices for the best accommodation 7 to 8 fr. a day, including board and lodging, &c.; apartments with kitchen or board may also be obtained. Riding horses and carriages for hire, and at H. Gabach at Tarascon. Visited by about 1500 strangers during the season (June to Sept.) The elegant établissement thermal and the best hotels are on the rt. bank of the Ariége, reached by a bridge, and surrounded by shady plantations. The *waters* are warm, saline, and, when administered in baths, are said to have a calming effect over the nervous system, and are much used by females. The baths are hollows excavated in the ground, lined with marble, filled naturally by the water rising from beneath. The *Grotto de Lombrive* (entrance 50 cent.), a series of caves opposite the établissement on the l. bank of the torrent, are of considerable extent, requiring an hour to explore them, and containing a quantity of human and other remains, apparently of the Reindeer period.

The high road runs up the l. bank of the Ariége, but there is a path along the rt. from Ussat to Tarascon. Above Tarascon the vale of the Ariége makes an abrupt bend to the E., round the N. base of the Mont *St. Barthélemy* (or *Pic de Tabe*) one of the loftiest of this portion of the chain of the Pyrenees (7707 ft.), whose top, capped with snow, appears, from time to time, domineering over the upper valley on the l. The summit may be reached in 4 hrs.' walking from *Lassur*, to which point there is a carriage road. From its isolation the view is equal to any in the Pyrenees. The Pont de Gudane carries the road over the stream of the Aston, descending from the lofty and snowy range

separating France from Andorre. Numerous old ruined castles, built originally to command the valley or defend the frequented passage through it into Catalonia, occur at intervals, rising on peaked eminences above the valley; but the largest and most lordly and picturesque of all is that of *Lordat*, near les Cabannes; its origin is attributed to the Moors or Goths. Ironworks in equal number alternate with these feudal remains; thus the romantic associations of former times combine with the active industry of the present to add an interest to a valley which derives so many attractions besides from the beauties of nature. Its ancient inhabitants were called *Tectosages*, from the *sagum*, or cloak, which they wore, which has descended to the present generation, who still designate it by the same name, in their patois, "*un sayo*."

Ax, 14 m. above Ussat (*Inns:* H. Sicre, excellent, bath-house attached, room and board 6 to 8 fr. a day; H. Boyer, good). Apartments may be obtained with kitchen or board, rooms 1 to 5 fr. a day. During the season apartments are let in nearly all the houses in the town. Guides and horses to be obtained at the hotels.

This town of 1710 Inhab. is 2330 ft. above sea-level, and prettily situated amidst granitic mountains, at the junction of 3 valleys, out of which issue 3 mountain torrents, whose streams combine, in or near the town, to form the river Ariége. It is visited during the season (June to Sept.) by upwards of 4000 strangers.

In the name Ax it is easy to discover the Latin *Aquæ*, derived from the hot *sulphureous springs* which burst out on all sides; indeed there appears to be a natural kettle of boiling water under the town. Fifty-three hot sources issue forth in different parts of it, varying in temperature from 113° to 173° of Fahr.; and in order to obtain cold one must resort to the river; and even it, in some parts, is rendered tepid by hot springs rising in its very bed: the snow rests but a few instants on a soil so thoroughly heated from below. Besides the application of the waters to baths, of which there are 2 or 3 establishments, and for drinking, it is turned to various domestic and economic purposes by the inhabitants, who wash not only their linen, but a vast quantity of wool, in its tepid streams. These springs rise at the junction of the slate and limestone with the granite, and are amongst the hottest in the Pyrenees. The town itself is a miserable collection of dirty lanes, the only considerable buildings being the hotels and hospitals, one of which has been constructed by Government for military patients. Near the hospital is an ancient bath, established in 1200, and still called *Bassin des Ladres*, or Lepers' Basin. Lake *Lanoux* (good cabane), 2 m. long, the largest sheet of water in the Pyrenees, 7000 ft. above the sea, is 7 hrs. from Ax; carriage-road to ¼ of way. A diligence service connects Ax with Bourg Madame, by the road now completed (see below) over the Col de Puymorin, so that the Eastern Pyrenees (Rte. 98) can now be conveniently approached from this side.

Above Ax the road ascends through savage but beautiful scenery, following the course of the Ariége for 5 m. to *Merens* (small *Inn*, and hot springs), before which the mountains close in and form a grand gloomy defile; it afterwards expands into an open, stony, and less interesting tract, and crosses the Bésines torrent near *Saïllens*, 2 m. before reaching *Hospitalet* (10½ m. from Ax), 3 hrs. by carriage. This is a poor hamlet in a dreary spot, the last in France, 4630 ft. above the sea, but has a small *Inn* (H. Asterié), where a bed and tolerable meal may be obtained.

From Hospitalet the carriage-road ascends in 1¼ hr. to the pass over the mountain called the

Col de Puymorin, 6400 ft. above the sea. The custom-house is at the bridge of Cerda. Here a path to the rt. leads in 2¼ hrs. to the Sources of the Ariége at the *Rochers d'Avignolles*, whence two passes lead to Andorre—that by the gorge to the l., and the Port de

Framiquel is easier, but longer, and it is better to keep to the rt., by the Port de Saldeu (8200 ft.), descending afterwards the valley of the Embalire to that of *Andorre*, by Canillo.

This small neutral State, between France and Spain, has been allowed by its powerful neighbours, partly through its insignificance and poverty, to maintain an independent existence, under an aristocratico-federative form of government, since the days of Charlemagne, resembling in this respect the republic of San Marino in Italy. It is shut in by high mountains on all sides but the S., where the river Embalire issues out towards the Spanish town of Urgel. Its population amounts to about 8000. 5 hrs. from Hospitalet is *Saldeu*, and 1 hr. beyond, *Canillo*, of 650 Inhab., the second village in Andorre. ½ hr. further is *Encamp*, picturesquely situated on grassy uplands; and in another 1½ hr. the village of *Las Escaldas* is reached, where are some hot springs, little resorted to medicinally. Another ½ hr. brings the traveller to the chief town, *Andorre* (two poor posadas), which numbers about 850 Inhab. Its principal buildings are an old Romanesque Ch., *La Casa de la Valle*, and the *Council House*, an ancient semi-fortified and dilapidated edifice, in which the members of the Government have met from time immemorial. It is governed by a council of 24, a syndic, and 2 viguiers, or magistrates, appointed, one by the sovereign of France, who, as protector of Andorre, receives 960 fr. of tribute yearly, the other by the Bishop of Urgel. It consists of 3 valleys, hemmed in by mountains of great elevation: its productions are limited nearly to wood and iron; and from the sale of these (and from smuggling) the inhabitants are enabled to purchase corn and other necessaries, which their barren and lofty country refuses to yield. For the traveller there is very little accommodation; and he that ventures thither, if he be not prepared to sleep in the open air, with some risk of doing so supperless, should carry letters with him from persons of authority at Ax to some of the wealthy proprietors. The project of a company to set up gaming-tables at Andorre, and to make a carriage-road to it, has utterly failed. The descent from Andorre into Spain through narrow gorges is one of the finest in the Pyrenees.

Seu d'Urgel, the first Spanish town of importance, and a bishop's see, is 6 hrs. from Andorre, descending the Embalire to its junction with the Segre.]

From the Col de Puymorin the road descends the S. slope, through a very wild valley, strewn with rocks, passing the hamlet of *Porté*, and then traverses the defile commanded by the castle of the *Tour de la Cerdagne*, and crossing the Ségre to (6 m. from Hospitalet) *Porta*, near which a path strikes off to the rt. up a minor valley into Andorre. Between Porta and Courbassil is the old ruined castle, after which the vale is named, called *Tour du Carol*, built, according to popular tradition, by the Moors; but upon the conquest of this country and their expulsion from it by Charlemagne, the towers were called Carol, after him. They occupy a very picturesque position on the top of an immense isolated mass of granite, rising in the midst of this narrow and rugged valley. Beyond Courbassil is the village called Tour de Carol, situated within a mile of the Spanish frontier, which is marked neither by stream nor mountain, a mere imaginary line at this point. About 2 m. within it lies the Spanish town of

Puycerda, ancient capital of La Cerdagne, 15 m. from Hospitalet. (See HANDBOOK FOR SPAIN.)

The road hence to Perpignan, by Mont Louis and the Valley of the Tet, is described in Rte. 98.

ROUTE 98.

EASTERN PYRENEES.—PERPIGNAN TO MONT LOUIS AND PUYCERDA, BY THE VALLEY OF THE TET—ASCENT OF THE CANIGOU.

	Kil.	Miles.
Perpignan to Bouleternère (Rail)	27	17
Vinça	33	20
Prades	41	26
Olette	58	36
Mont Louis	75	46
Bourg Madame	98	60
Puycerda	100	62

Railway to Prades; open as far as Bouleternère 17 m., 3 trains daily, in 1¼ hr.; carriage-road to Bourg Madame; diligence by Prades to Bains de Molitg, Vernet les Bains, and Mont Louis, in correspondence with the trains.

The vale of the Tet, up whose rt. bank the rly. ascends, is absorbed in the great plain of Roussillon, near Perpignan, and it is not until after leaving behind, at some distance,

14 m. *Ille* Stat., a walled town of 3415 Inhab., that the line enters fairly into the mountains.

3 m. *Bouleternère* Stat. Here the line at present ceases, and from

4 m. *Vinça* (2 m. N.W. of which are the sulphureous baths of *Fonte del Sofre*, useful in cutaneous affections), the ascent is gradual to

6 m. **Prades.** (*Inn:* H. Januari, good.) This town of 3579 Inhab. possesses natural warm baths, but is not otherwise remarkable, except for its pretty situation on the rt. bank of the Tet, at the N. base of the Canigou, in a valley abounding in corn, wine, and fruits, vineyards terraced up the hill-sides, maize and hemp fields: About 2 m. S. are the ruins of the Benedictine *Abbey of St. Michel de Cuxa* (M. H.) of the 9th cent., partly demolished in 1794, which deserve a visit. One of the richest monasteries of the Order. Here died St. Pietro Orseolo, doge of Venice, who was induced to abandon the ducal crown, and to become a monk in the 10th cent.

[5 m. N.W. of Prades (diligence ¾ hr.) are the sulphur Baths of *Molitg*, with several établissements about 1 m. from the village, at the bottom of the Castellane gorge. The peculiar effect upon the skin of the *Llupia* spring has acquired for it the name of the "Bain de délices." Perched on a rock are the ruins of the *Castle* of Paracols.]

Above Prades the plain of the Tet contracts into a valley; and, after passing the old *Castle* of Ria, narrows to a gorge at

5 m. *Villefranche* (813 Inhab.), fortified by Vauban, strengthened since 1849 by a fort built between the town and citadel, communicating with vast natural caverns in the mountain, reached by a flight of 132 steps. In order to visit them the permission of the military commandant will be necessary. The neighbouring heights squeeze in the town as it were, and leave barely space for its two narrow streets, and the river below.

[*Omnibus* from Villefranche to 3 m. *Le Vernet*, passing 2 m. *Cornella*, a village with a curious Romanesque *Ch.* (M. H.), at the junction of 2 ravines, which penetrate S. from this into the flanks of the Canigou.

1 m. **Vernet les Bains** (*Inns:* Thermes des Commandants; Thermes Mercader, both excellent hotels, with baths attached), a watering-place (1960 ft.), supplied by hot sulphureous springs bursting out of a slaty quartzose rock, at the junction with the granite of the Canigou. They are useful in cases of rheumatism, paralysis, wounds, and ulcers. The place was visited by Ibrahim Pasha of Egypt, in 1846. The situation is very pretty, and the place is comfortable and not over-crowded. Above Vernet, and reached by mule-path in 1½ hr., rises the ruined *Abbey St. Martin du Canigou*, founded by Count Guiffred to expiate the murder of his own son,

who, hastily attacking the Moorish invaders of this country in the 10th cent., deprived his father of a complete victory over them. The ruins are those of the ch. and crypt beneath. The tomb of Count Guiffred is removed to the modern *Ch.* of Castell, which is ½ hr. from the Abbey, and passed on the way from Vernet.

The *Ascent of the Canigou*, which projects forward from the great chain of the Pyrenees, and rises almost isolated above the plain of Roussillon to a height of 9144 ft., may be made from Vernet or Castell in 5½ to 6 hrs. Guide, 10 fr.; horse, 10 fr. Michel Nou of Castell can be recommended. Take provisions. The path leads from Castell, near the ruined Abbey of St. Martin, and by an almost continuous ascent to the *Granges de Cadi* (small cabane). 1 hr. above this the mules had better be left, the time required from here to the top about ½ hr. The latter part of the ascent is up a sort of fissure or cheminée to the summit, a small platform on which there is a rude cabin, affording shelter in case of a sudden storm. Hence the eye surveys the plain of Roussillon, and the coast of the Mediterranean, with Perpignan on its margin; the valleys bordering on the Tet; the mountain range of Catalonia on the S.; and on the W. the chain separating Roussillon from the Vale of Ariége. It is well worth while to pass the night at the *Granges de Cadi*, to see the sun rise out of the Mediterranean. The descent may be made: — *a.* to Vernet in 4 hrs.; *b.* by Valmanya, a mining hamlet with a poor cabaret, to Vinça, in 7 hrs.; *c.* by *Pla Guilhem* to Pratz de Mollo, at the head of the valley of the Tech, in 5 hrs. (Rte. 99).]

On quitting Villefranche the high road crosses the Tet by a bridge.

6 m. *Olette* (*Inns:* H. du Midi; H. de la Fontaine). There is a small bathing establishment. Pop. 997. Goat-skin sacks for carrying wine are made here. The cultivation of the vine ceases, and the valley becomes sterile and wild; the road, ascending more rapidly, traverses a narrow defile, guarded and closed, in ancient times, by walls, towers, and gateways, whose ruins still remain. A short tunnel has been formed to give passage to the road instead of the steep zigzags of the old mule-path called *Les Graus* (Gradus) *d'Olette*. Near this are sulphureous thermal (172 F.) springs utilized in a large établissement. To this succeeds an open expanse, a table-land of green meadow, a pastoral scene, surrounded by fir-clad heights, where separate the sources of the Tet and Segre; and in the midst stands

12 m. **Mont Louis** (*Inns:* H. Jambon, in the town; H. Vaillant, at *la Cabanasse*, the best, below the Citadel), a 2nd-class frontier fortress (470 Inhab.), built 1681 by Vauban to guard the passage from Spain by the Col de la Perche. It is 5250 ft. above the level of the sea, the highest and coldest garrison town in France. In the square is a monument to General Dagobert. It is a desolate place, consisting of 8 short streets, in straight lines, crossing one another at right angles, surmounted by the *Citadel*, whose casemates cut in the rock would receive several thousand men. A road runs N. from this to Carcassonne (Rte. 100), and a path over the mountains by Les Angles into the vale of the Ariége.

[At *Planès*, about 2 m. S. E. of Mont Louis, is a curious *Ch.* (M. H.) in the form of an equilateral triangle, whose origin is doubtful, but not earlier than the 13th cent.; and near Bolquera, to the rt., is the *Chapel of Font-Romeu*, containing a statue of the Virgin, attracting vast crowds of pilgrims at the annual fête in September.]

About 1½ m. beyond Mont Louis the road commands a fine view when crossing the

Col de la Perche (5320 ft.); it then descends into the vast basin of La Cerdagne, traversed by numerous streams which unite to form the Sègre, a tributary of the Ebro. Though on the Spanish side of the watershed, the upper portion of this basin, to within

a mile of Puycerda, belongs to France, with the exception of a small patch around the village of Llivia, of about 12 sq. kilomètres, which is entirely surrounded by France and traversed by a neutral road, and which owes its existence to a verbal quibble in the treaty of the Pyrenees (1659), and serves only the smuggling interest. To avoid Llivia the carriage-road skirts the slopes to the southward, and 5 m. below the col reaches

Sallagossa, a town of 608 Inhab. with a curious *Ch.* (M.H.), and 16 m. farther is

Bourg Madame (*Inn:* H. du Commerce).

[5 m. N. (omnibus during bathing season 1 fr.) is

Las Escaldas (Aguas Caldas, hot springs), a prettily-situated bathing-place with tolerable accommodation, chiefly resorted to by Spaniards although within French territory.]

After leaving Bourg Madame the road crosses the Raur, and, passing the Spanish custom-house, reaches

1 m. **Puycerda** (see Handbook for Spain).

For the road N.W. to Foix, &c., see Rte. 97.

ROUTE 99.

PERPIGNAN TO PRESTE LES BAINS, BY THE VALLEY OF THE TECH—AMÉLIE LES BAINS—ARLES—PRATS DE MOLLO.

Diligences daily from the rly. stat. Perpignan to (18 m.) Amélie-les-Bains 3½ hrs., and Arles, 3¾ hrs.

The post-road from Perpignan to Barcelona is followed as far as

14 m. *Le Boulou* (see Rte. 94).

Here a cross-road diverges W. up the *Valley of the Tech.*

5 m. *Pont de Ceret.* The river here is spanned by an ancient bridge of a single bold arch of 144 ft. span, whose construction is attributed to the Visigoth kings, but which in reality is not older than 1352. Less than 1 m. to the l. is *Ceret*, the Ceredesium of the middle ages (Pop. 3737), partly retaining its old walls. From the bridge the road follows the rt. bank of the Tech to

6 m. **Amélie-les-Bains** (called Arles-les-Bains until renamed in honour of the wife of Louis Philippe). Pop. 1390. (*Inns:* Thermes Romaines; Thermes Pujade. A good hotel much wanted here.) Châlets and apartments to be had. Season, June to October, but the climate is also mild and pleasant from November until the spring winds set in. The Sulphur Springs were known to the Romans, of whom traces exist in the remains of an aqueduct, portions of the church, and the vaulted chamber in which one of the springs is received. There are many pleasant walks and a shady *Park*, and it is a comfortable residence for invalids. The olive and vine abound, and the orange, citron, cactus, and palm are to be found. The large *Military Hospital* is one of the most perfect of its kind in France. A small *Fort*, constructed by Louis XIV., crowns an eminence above the village. In the neighbourhood Catalan forges are worked supplied with ore from the Canigou. Beyond Amélie, and after crossing the Mondony, is

3 m. *Arles* (*Inn:* H. Rousseau). The town has 2542 Inhab., more Spanish than French in language; old customs, &c. The present *Ch.* (M.H.) dates from 1157; the front and portal enriched with curious carving in white marble. On the l. of the façade, under a sort of shed, is a very ancient sarcophagus (? 5th cent.) resting on 4 feet, filled with miracle-working water, which is never exhausted, and is sold at 20 sous the vial-full. It owes its virtues to the coffin having inclosed the relics of two saints, Abdon and Semnen, which were brought from Rome to free the neighbourhood of Arles from dragons, lions, &c., which then infested it! Ad-

joining the ch. is a cloister, a range of pointed arches on slender pillars, of the 13th cent., without a roof.

[Excursions from Arles by carriage-roads to

a. 11 m. *St. Laurent de Cerdans* (*Inn:* H. Cassuly, fair), Pop. 2141, situated on a thickly-wooded high plateau, commanding fine views. [3 m. farther is *Coustouges* (Costujas), just on the Spanish frontier, with Romanesque ch. of (?) 9th cent.] From *St. Laurent* (guide for first few miles may be obtained of M. Cassuly, if alone tourist should be well armed), a good walker may reach, in 9 or 10 hrs., *Olot*, in Catalonia, through wild and picturesque scenery, with extinct volcanoes similar to those of Auvergne, and passing *La Muga* (where is an interesting cascade, near which are the caves frequented by the brigand band Trabuceros in 1845), *San Julia*, *St. Aniol*, and *Castelfollit*, where provisions may be obtained, and excellent white wine, at a tolerable posada, and from whence Diligence daily (5 m.) to *Olot* (*Inn:* H. Fonda della Estrella, fair).

b. 3 m. *Corsavi*, a village on N. slopes of Canigou, from which a mule-path, commanding fine views, by Batère and Valmanya to Vinça (see Rte. 98), in the valley of the Tet, and about 10 hrs. from Arles.

The ascent of the Canigou may be made from Corsavi or Prats de Mollo, but easier from Vernet (Rte. 98).

The road from Arles continues S.W. through *Le Tech* to

12 m. **Prats de Mollo** (small auberge), a frontier town of 2784 Inhab., surrounded by old-fashioned fortifications, but commanded on the height above by the more effective Fort Legarde, constructed from the plans of Vauban. From this place a mule-path leads by the Col d'Ares (5000 ft.) to (4 hrs.) the Spanish town of *Campredon*, beyond which is (3 hrs.) *San Juan de las Abedesas* (*Inn:* H. La Bonica, clean), from which a carriage-road leads to (3 m.) the important coal-mines at Surroca.

From Prats de Mollo the road leads to

5 m. **La Preste-les-Bains**, a thermal establishment, with sulphurous waters like those of Amélie, and recommended for calculous disorders. The *Hotel* offers fair accommodation, and is picturesquely situated at the head of the valley of Tech. The promenades and terraces offer fine points of view. The *Costabona* (8000 ft.) may be ascended on horseback from here in 3 to 4 hrs.

ROUTE 100.

CARCASSONNE TO MONT LOUIS AND PUYCERDA (IN SPAIN), BY THE VALLEY OF THE AUDE.

	Kil.	Miles.
Carcassonne to		
Limoux (Rail)	25	15
Quillan	53	32
Roquefort	77	48
Querigut	89	55
Mont Louis	113	71

Rly. (3 trains daily, in 1 hr.) to Limoux, thence Rly. *in progress;* in the mean time *diligence* in 2¾ hrs. to Quillan, whence carriage-road to Mont Louis. There is some fine scenery in the upper valley of the Aude, which it continues to follow to the Col de Llagona, the highest point of our route.

15 m. *Limoux* Stat. (*Inn:* H. Lion d'Or, good; H. du Parc), a small town of 6835 Inhab., situated in a valley on the river Aude. The rich soil of the neighbouring vineyards produces a white wine known as La Blanquette de Limoux. The fête of the Black Virgin, lasting 3 weeks, attracts crowds of pilgrims to the chapel of Our Lady of Marseilles, perched on a little hill some short distance from the town. *Diligences* to Foix.

5 m. *Alet* (the ancient *Alectum*), a village of 1350 Inhab. There is a large Thermal Establishment, including Hotel, open all the year round. The mineral springs are hot saline (86 F.) and cold ferruginous; the properties resemble those of Bagnères de Bigorre. Interesting ruins here of a Benedictine Abbey (M.H.) erected in 1018. The *Ch.* is in the form of an ancient basilica, with a pentangular apse. From the *Peak de Bran* (2000 ft.) above the town there is a magnificent view.

5 m. *Couiza*, at the junction of the Sals with the Aude; town of 1035 Inhab. [There are several sources of mineral waters hereabouts, and a Thermal Establishment at *Rennes-les-Bains*, 7 m. up the valley of the Sals.] Higher up the valley of the Aude is

6 m. **Quillan** (*Inn:* H. des Pyrénées) (Pop. 2556), surmounted by the ruins of an old castle, and with extensive forests in neighbourhood, cloth factories, sawmills, &c. 1 m. W. is the pretty little établissement of *Ginoles*, cold saline and sulphureous springs.

[Diligences by Lavelanet to Foix (38 m., Rte. 97), and to Perpignan (46 m., Rte 94), passing through *Pont de Charla* over the *Col de St. Louis* (2900 ft.). and by—*Caudiès* (15 m.), village of 1969 Inhab., with Chapel of Notre Dame de la Vall, from which fine view.—*St. Paul de Fenouillet* (7 m.), village of 2164 Inhab. 3 m. N. of which, in a narrow defile, is the grotto of *St. Antoine de Galamus.—Estagel* (11 m.), village of 2313 Inhab., prettily situated on rt. bank of the Agly, with a bust by David of Angers opposite the house where the astronomer Arago was born.]

3 m. beyond Quillan the road enters the savage and picturesque defile of *Pierre Lis*, and traverses a tunnel 130 ft. in length, and 4 m. farther, just beyond where the road to Perpignan branches off to l., is *Axat*, celebrated for its prunes, from whence the road mounts by zigzags to

8 m. *Roquefort*, a village of 755 Inhab., and then crosses the Col de Bousquet, from whence a fine view. A rather dangerous descent leads into the narrow gorge of the Aude, where are several bathing établissements (*Bains d'Escouloubre, Carcanières*, &c.), situated on terraces blasted out of the rock, and supplying rough accommodation. From here the road ascends and reaches

9 m. *Quérigut*, the ancient *Quera-centum*, a once flourishing village when peopled by the Protestants; it was the capital of the district of the *Donegau*. From here a steep ascent to the Col des Ares (5230 ft. above the sea), and descent to

7 m. *Formiguères* (Pop. 816), ancient capital of the district of *Capsir*. There is a curious church here, dating from the 9th cent. King Sancho of Aragon died here in 1324. At Formiguères a road branches off on l. to Olette; that to Mont Louis continues up the valley of the Aude, and near its source, at L'Etang de l'Aude, traverses a fine pine forest, and attains the watershed at the Col of La Llagonne (5643 ft.), a little beyond which is the village of the same name, in the valley of the Tet, 2 m. before reaching

8 m. *Mont Louis* (Rte. 98).

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LONDON:

PRINTED BY WILLIAM CLOWES AND SONS, STAMFORD STREET
AND CHARING CROSS.

HANDBOOK ADVERTISER, 1877–78.

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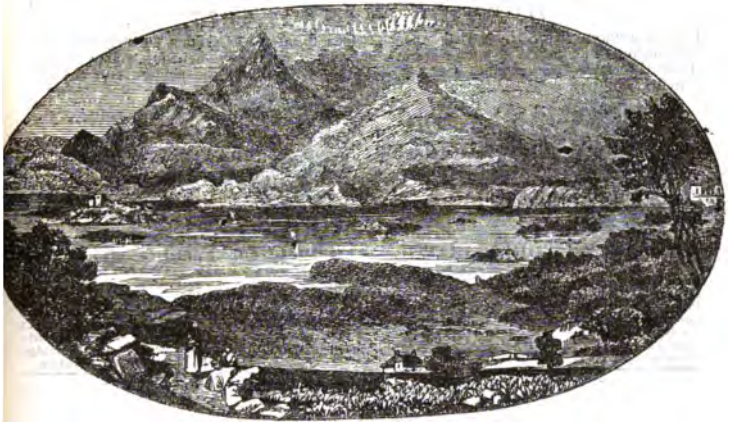
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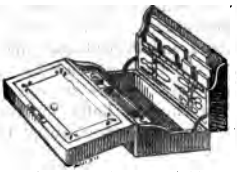
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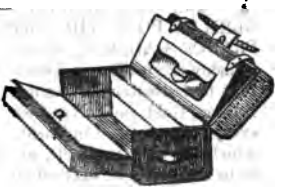
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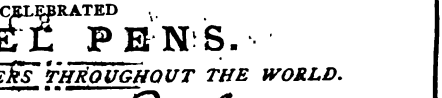
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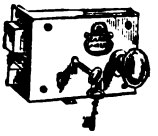
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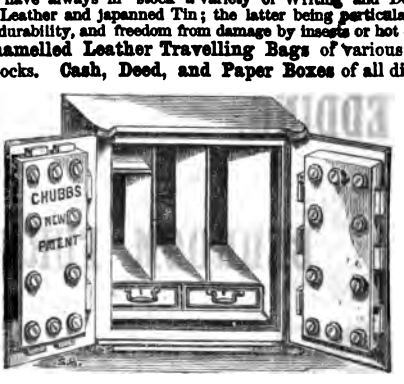
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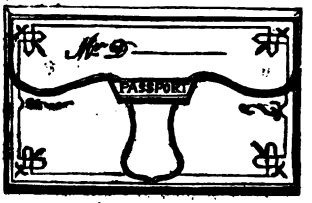
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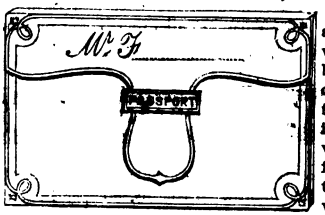
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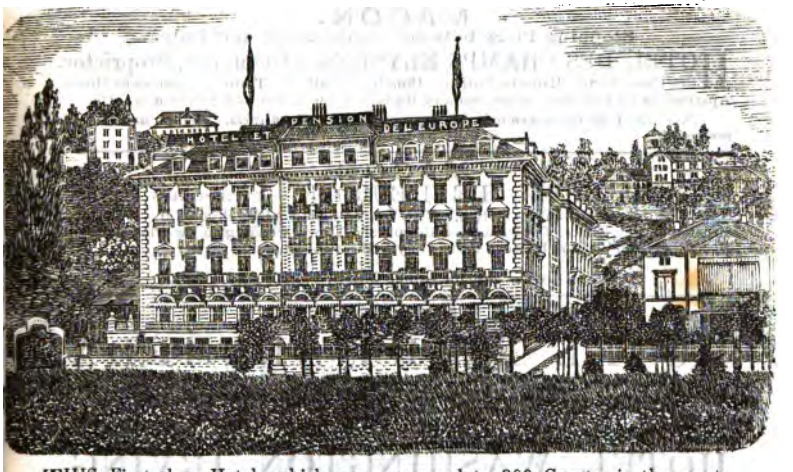
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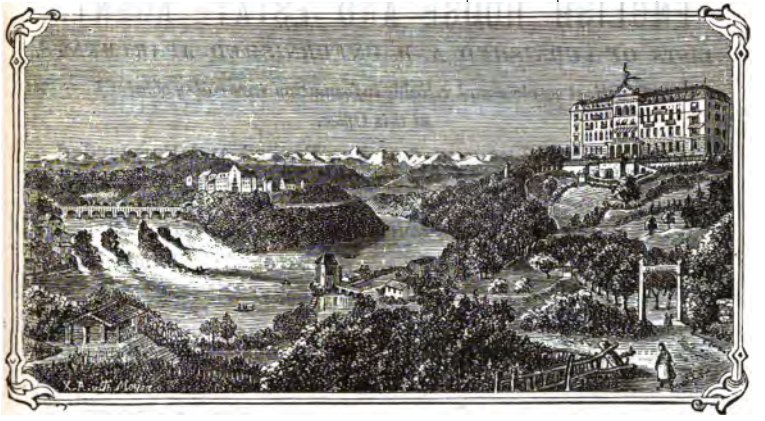
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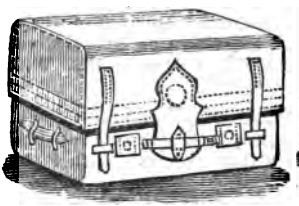
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